

Audience	Service Area	Organization	Service Available	Qualifications	Contact Information	Address
<i>Unhoused, Renter, Homeowner, Other, Homebuyer</i>	<i>Any restrictions within Story County?</i>	<i>Name of entity and or program</i>	<i>What housing service or program is provided?</i>	<i>What are the restrictions? Income, age, status, occupancy, other? Any commitments?</i>	<i>Best way to get in touch or learn about the program/service</i>	<i>Alternate way reach provider</i>
Renter	Story County	Aging Resources of Central Iowa	Rural Options Counselor can assist with applying for CIRHA, Rent Reimbursement, LIHEAP, and other assistance programs. The mission is to provide information and referrals for additional services or resources to help individuals age in place, safely, as long as possible.	Anyone aged 60+, adults 18-59 with a disability, an adult 18+ who is a caregiver for an adult 60+, non-parent relative aged 55+ raising children under age 18, or relative aged 55+ caregiving for an adult 18-59 with a disability.	Call 515.255.1310 and leave a message. The appropriate staff member will return your call. www.agingresources.com	5835 Grand Ave, Suite 106, Des Moines, IA 50312
Renter	Story County	Aging Resources of Central Iowa	Assistance with deposit or 1st month's rent once a move-in date is set, utilities with a disconnect notice or already disconnected, or rent when a 3-day eviction notice is received. Lists can also be accessed on our website, under Resources tab.	Anyone aged 60+, an adult 18+ who is a caregiver for an adult 60+, non-parent relative aged 55+ raising children under age 18, or relative aged 55+ caregiving for an adult 18-59 with a disability. Assistance limited to once every 2 years and is dependent on funding availability.	Call 515.255.1310 and leave a message. The appropriate staff member will return your call. www.agingresources.com	5835 Grand Ave, Suite 106, Des Moines, IA 50312
Renter	Story County	Aging Resources of Central Iowa	Story County Housing List – summary of senior living options in Story County. List includes independent living, assisted living, and memory care.	See list as each facility has different restrictions.	www.agingresources.com/resources/	5835 Grand Ave, Suite 106, Des Moines, IA 50312
Renter	Story County	Story County General Assistance	Emergency rent and utility assistance	Any Story County resident in need of emergency assistance may apply for services. Eligibility is determined through an application process.	515.663.2930 www.storycountyiowa.gov/94/General-Assistance	126 S. Kellogg Ave #001, Ames, IA 50010
Renter	Story County	St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, Love Your Neighbor	Rent, deposit, and utility assistance. Only accepts phone calls on Thursday mornings at 9am. Limited to once every 12 months.	Must have a notice of application for assistance from Story County General Assistance and MICA (if helping with utilities)	515.292.3810 or email lyn@staparish.net	2210 Lincoln Way, Ames, IA 50010
Renter	Story County	CIRHA- Central Iowa Regional Housing Authority	Section 8 Housing Vouchers and other federal housing programs	Income Restrictions	515.986.1882 cirhahome.org	1201 SE Gateway Drive Grimes, IA 50111
Renter	Story County	The Salvation Army	Homelessness prevention in the form of deposit, rent, and utility assistance.	Must apply through Story County General Assistance and sign release of information. Available to Story County residents.	515.233.3567 centralusa.salvationarmy.org/ames/	Service Center 703 E Lincoln Way, Ames, IA

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Renter	Story County	Home Allies	Low barrier transitional housing units with rent assistance.	Income-based; includes educational component.	515.766.0538 homeallies.org	710 Kellogg Ave, Ames, IA
Renter	Story County	Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance	Rent and Utility assistance.	Must apply through Story County General Assistance and sign release of information. Must be a permanent Story County resident and must have a crisis or emergency situation. Limited to once in a 12 month period and funding availability.	515.296.1449 gnea.org/services/	613 Clark Ave, Ames, IA 50010
Renter	Ames and Gilbert	Christ Community Church Caring Fund	Rent or utility assistance. Walk-ins only from 1-3 pm on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month.	Limited to once in a 12 month period and funding availability. Not available to full-time ISU students.	515.232.2765	5501 George Washington Carver Ave, Ames, IA 50010
Renter	East of I-35 Only	St. Patrick's Catholic Church Good Samaritan Fund	Rent and utility assistance up to \$300	Limited to once in a 6 month period	515.382.2974	1110 11th Street, Nevada, IA 50201
Renter	Story County	Mid-Iowa Community Action (MICA)	May be able to help with utilities in danger of disconnection, depending on available funds. LIHEAP applications begin October 1st for seniors or those with disabilities and Nov 1st for all families. Closes April 30th.	Income restricted. Need disconnection notice, copy of most recent bill, and proof of income for last 90 days.	641.956.3333 micaonline.org/services/families/liheap-energy-assistance-and-lihwap-water-assistance/	230 SE 16th Street, Ames, IA 50010
Veteran	Story County	Story County - Home Base Iowa	One-time grant up to \$3,000 for relocation assistance or related expenses.	Honorably discharged veterans relocating to and working full time in Story County.	www.storycountyiowa.gov/1191/Home-Base-Iowa	900 6th Street, Nevada, IA 50201
Veteran	Story County	Primary Health Care - SSVF	Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF) - Rental assistance and case management for veterans and families of veterans	Literal homeless veteran in Story County	Joey Choate 515.415.1358	3510 Lincoln Way, Ames, IA 50014
Veteran	Story County	Veterans Affairs	Rent and utility assistance- can assist two times per calendar year, food and provisions, transportation, medical, dental and vision care assistance, prescription medication.	Veterans who reside in Story County	515.956.2626 Zachary Skelton: zskelton@storycountyiowa.org	126 S. Kellogg Ave, Suite 001, Ames, IA 50010

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Unhoused	Story County	The Bridge Home	Emergency Shelter and related support for the unhoused.	No restrictions beyond available funding and capacity.	515.232.8075 www.thebridgehome.org/our-work/	225 S Kellogg Ave, Ames, IA 50010
Unhoused	Story County	Cornerstone Church, Home for Awhile	90 day transitional housing. Limited to 3-4 apartments, one becoming available each month. Story County residents and those coming from other Iowa counties.	Household must include at least one child (18 or under) living in the house 50% of the time. Must be willing to meet the requirements and follow the rules of the program. Families who have been recently evicted or are nearing homelessness are eligible.	ehawk@cornerstonelife.com cornerstonelife.com/hfa/	3425 Turing Street, Ames, IA 50010
Unhoused	Story County	Salvation Army	Temporary Shelter Hotel Voucher Program. Provides emergency hotel stays up to 30 days in a calendar year. Limited to funding availability.	Show proof of unhoused status and proof of Story County residency. Limited to funding availability.	515.233.3567 centralusa.salvationarmy.org/ames/	Service Center 703 E Lincoln Way, Ames, IA
Unhoused	Story County	Salvation Army	Emergency Disaster Services (EDS) - includes temporary shelter (hotel stays), deposit/rent/pro-rated rent (if a tenant has to move as a result of a disaster), food, water, and some assistance with replacement items (bedding, towels, furniture, etc.) if the household wasn't covered by insurance or any other form of assistance (FEMA, etc.).	Referrals usually come from the Red Cross, but self-referrals are permitted as long as the event can be verified.	515.233.3567 centralusa.salvationarmy.org/ames/	Service Center 703 E Lincoln Way, Ames, IA
Unhoused	Story County	Primary Health Care	GBHI Program is intended for homeless individuals dealing with substance abuse. Can also provide assistance in accessing permanent housing.	Have a mental health diagnosis, substance use disorder, or co-occurring diagnosis; Experiencing literal homelessness OR Imminent risk of homelessness (will be losing current housing in the next 14 days and lack support or resources to obtain other housing)	515.823.4613 rboatright@phcinc.net	n/a
Unhoused	Story County	YSS	Services for unaccompanied runaway and homeless youth	Under 18, not state system involved	515.233.3141 www.yss.org/program/	32385 580th Ave, Cambridge, IA 50046
Unhoused	Story County	YSS	Transitional/Rapid Rehousing services with case management	Single/Family units all members must be under age 25, income based and go through Coordinated Entry, if 16.5-18 only eligible for specific locations with guardian approval	515.233.3141 www.yss.org/program/	125 S 3rd St, Ames, IA 50010

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Unhoused	Story County	ACCESS	Emergency shelter and rapid rehousing for survivors of abuse or violence.	Survivors	Housing/Sheltering Crisis Line: 515.292.0543 or 855.696.2980 www.assaultcarecenter.org/	1525 Airport Rd, Ames, IA 50014
Unhoused	Story County	Romero House	Day Shelter from 1-4pm and Sundays 10:30am-4pm, free lunch, shower, laundry and community space. Also connects unhoused with temporary shelter through private homes.	There are no restrictions for using the day shelter. Private homeowners use their discretion for housing.	515.337.8088 amesromerohouse.org	702 Clark Ave, Ames, IA 50010
Other	Story County	Nevada Food at First	Free Monday and Thursday evening meals. Delivery available to a variety of locations in Story County.	Open to all. For delivery call or text before 3:30 on day of.	515.215.3904 docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScu8KKuJKI2fbiRnUSLQvQuOpLyHK1a_4YNzfDIDxQiPLRqdg/viewform	1036 7th Steet, Nevada, IA 50201
Other	Story County	Food at First	Daily free meal from 5:45pm-6:15pm and Saturdays from 11:30am-12:15pm. It is also a perishable food pantry three times a week , Monday and Thursday : 4:30pm-5:30pm and Saturday from 10am-11am	Anyone who is struggling with hunger and food insecurity, no questions asked.	West Door at 611 Clark, Ames, IA foodatfirst.com	611 Clark Ave, Ames, IA 50010
Other	Story County	Martha's House of Hope	Emergency housing for unexpectedly pregnant women. Housing available until baby's first birthday.	18+ and pregnant, agree to rules & guidelines	515.337.0618 www.marthashouseofhope.org/about	PO Box 305, Ames, IA 50010
Other	Story County	Anchored Hope	Housing and wrap around support for women who have aged out of foster care.	Ages 18-24 and limit to 5 women at a time	anchoredhopehouse.org/	PO Box 21, Ames, IA 50010
Other	Story County	Matthew 25 House	Helps integrate men into a local church and the Ames community. Housing is provided along with meals. Asked to commit a year of their time to living in the home.	Outreach program for men who are in the Story County Jail, halfway houses or an Iowa Prison. No drugs, no alcohol, no in house smoking and no cars for the first six months. Employment will be maintained and meet regularly with resident director.	515.231.4385	330 S 2nd St, Ames, IA 50010
Other	Story County	Butterfly Freedom House	Residency at the Butterfly House for previously incarcerated women. Length of stay is a case by case. Women learn about different life skills.	For previously incarcerated women and must submit application and undergo an interview process. Can have children. Christian based and must participate in Bible Study during the week.	www.butterflyfreedomhouse.org/contact	PO Box 2382, Ames, IA 50010

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Other	Story County	National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)	Supporting people with mental illnesses, their families and their friends. Wellness Center open during the week Mon-Thurs. People can come to a support group or hang out in the wellness center. They also provide a NAMI helpline at 800.950.6264	Meet specific income and resource guidelines, reside in the CICS region, have had professional assessments completed that determine services are needed. NEED to call the CICS main phone number at 515.513.6870 to connect with CICS staff.	515.292.9400	424 5th Street, Ames, IA 50010
Other	Story County	Eyerly Ball	Offers a full continuum of mental health services and treatment. Mental Health Medication Management, Mental Health Therapy, Family Therapy, Mobile Crisis, Assertive Community Treatment, Community Support Services, Integrated Health Home, Crisis Stabilization Community Based Services, First Episode Psychosis Program, Adult and Youth Outpatient.	Those who have Medicaid, Medicare, most commercial insurance plans and self-pay and they provide a sliding fee scale.	855.581.8111 www.unitypoint.org/locations/unitypoint-health---eyerly-ball#services	2521 S University Blvd, Unit 121, Ames, IA 50010
Other	Story County	Community & Family Resources (CFR)	Prevention and Education, Detox, Outpatient Substance use and treatment services, Mental health services, recovery housing, residential substance use treatment services.	Accept Medicaid and most private insurance, as well as sliding-fee scale based on family income.	515.232.6206 www.cfrhelps.org/programs-overview	1619 S High Ave, Ames, IA 50010
Other	Ames	Ames Animal Shelter (Ame Police Department)	Pet food pantry; Boarding of pets for up to 7-days for those unhoused in the City of Ames.	Dependent on the current capacity of the shelter. Must transport pet to the shelter. An agreement will need to be signed surrendering the animal to the shelter after day 7.	Animal Shelter: 515.239.5530 Animal Control Officer: 515.231.1080 Ron Edwards: ron.edwards@cityofames.org	325 Billy Sunday Rd, Ames, IA 50010
Other	Ames	The Well Resource Center	Resource referrals, financial assistance on a case-by-case basis, ongoing support to help stabilize an individual or family's situation.	No restrictions.	515.558.6886	233 S Walnut Ave, Suite B, Ames, IA 50010
Other	Story County	Iowa Finance Authority	Home and Community-Based Services Rent Subsidy Program.	18+; Participant of Money Follows the Person or one of the HCBS waiver programs, including habilitation services; Evidence that more than 30% of income is for rent; Evidence of ineligibility, or waiting list, for HUD rental assistance; Must live in a qualified rental unit.	https://opportunityiowa.gov/housing/rental-programs/programs-renters/home-community-based-services-rent-subsidy-program	n/a

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Homebuyer	Story County, except Ames	USDA Rural Development	Rural Home Loans	Income Restricted, unable to secure a loan from other sources, meet and agree to federal participation guidelines	515.284.4444 www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-programs/single-family-housing-direct-home-loans/ia	The Neal Smith Federal Building, 210 Walnut St # 873, Des Moines, IA 50309
Homebuyer	Story County	Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines	Home\$tart downpayment assistance program. Eligible households may receive \$15,000 in down payment and closing cost assistance.	Income restrictions and applicants must work with local bank that is a FHLB member.	www.fhlbdm.com/products-services/affordable-housing/homestart/	909 Locust St, Suite 500, Des Moines, IA 50309
Homebuyer	Story County	Iowa Finance Authority	Mortgage and down payment assistance programs, must work through an IFA approved lender	Income and purchase price restrictions.	opportunityiowa.gov/housing/homeownership-programs	1963 Bell Ave, Suite 200, Des Moines, IA 50315
Homebuyer	Story County	Story County Housing Trust	\$5,000 First-time Homebuyer grant	Income and debt restrictions, purchase price limit, lender participation, and fund availability.	515.304.3579 storycountyht.org/	939 Office Park Rd Suite 306, West Des Moines, IA 50265
Homebuyer	Story County	Habitat for Humanity of Central Iowa	Build and sell homes to qualified homebuyers with 0% mortgage	Application process with income requirements and rental history.	515.232.8815 hfhci.org/housing/	3504 Grand Ave, Ames, IA 50010
Homebuyer	Story County	Finally Home! (IFA partner)	Homebuyer education	\$50 online course.	www.finallyhome.org/en/partners/iowa/	n/a
Homebuyer	Story County	HomeView	Homebuyer education	Free online course.	www.fanniemaecom.com/education	n/a
Homebuyer	Story County	CreditSmart Homebuyer U	Homebuyer education	Free online course.	creditsmart.freddiemac.com/	n/a

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Homeowner	Story County, except Ames	USDA Rural Development	Single family housing repair grants to remove health and safety hazards	Over the age of 62, own and occupy the house, income restricted, and be unable to obtain affordable credit elsewhere	515.332.4411 www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-programs/single-family-housing-repair-loans-grants/ia	The Neal Smith Federal Building, 210 Walnut St # 873, Des Moines, IA 50309
Homeowner	Story County, except Ames	USDA Rural Development	Single family housing repair loans to repair, improve, or modernize homes. Can also be used to remove health and safety hazards.	Own and occupy the house, income restricted, and be unable to obtain affordable credit elsewhere	515.332.4411 www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-programs/single-family-housing-repair-loans-grants/ia	The Neal Smith Federal Building, 210 Walnut St # 873, Des Moines, IA 50309
Homeowner	Story County	The Salvation Army	Homelessness prevention in the form of mortgage and utility assistance	Income restricted and must provide proof of residency.	515.233.3567 centralusa.salvationarmy.org/ames/	Service Center 703 E Lincoln Way, Ames, IA
Homeowner	Story County	Story County Housing Trust	Does not provide direct assistance. Contact the SCHT to find organizations that assist with owner-occupied repair projects.	Income Restricted	515.304.3579 storycountyht.org	939 Office Park Rd, Suite 306, West Des Moines, IA 50265
Homeowner	Story County	Story County Environmental Health	Low-interest loans for septic repair and replacement	Onsite Wastewater Assistance Program. Will need to work with Story County and a local lender.	515.382.7240 www.storycountyiowa.gov/1559/Financial-Assistance-For-Septic-Systems	900 6th Street, Nevada, IA 50201
Homeowner	Story County	Mid-Iowa Community Action (MICA)	May be able to help with utilities in danger of disconnection, depending on available funds. May be able to help with furnace repairs and replacements. November 1 – April 15: Non-Emergency Energy Assistance (LIHEAP).	Income restricted. Need disconnection notice, copy of most recent bill, and proof of income for last 90 days.	641.956.3333 micaonline.org/services/families/liheap-energy-assistance-and-lihwap-water-assistance/	230 SE 16th Street, Ames, IA 50010
Homeowner	Story County	Able Up Iowa	Loans for home repairs or accessibility modifications.	Available to those with a disability, diagnosis, long-term condition, or over the age of 55.	https://ableupiowa.org/	130 S. Sheldon Ave, #201, Ames, IA 50014

April 2026 version

The information provided is a service of the Story County Housing Trust. Every effort is made to keep the details current; however, programs and services are subject to change. If you notice an error or would like to suggest an update, please contact the Story County Housing Trust administrator, Lucas Young, at lyoung@midiowaplanning.org or 515.304.3579