



CERA: COVID EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Updates from Wayne Metro

Michael Centi, Department Director of Integration



Eviction Moratorium & Legal Supports

The national CDC eviction moratorium is no longer in effect (lifted 8/26)

Recommendations & reminders if facing an eviction:

- Help is available!
 - Lakeshore Legal Aid: 866-783-8190
 - Michigan Legal Help: www.michiganlegalhelp.org
- Evictions take a legal process – people cannot be evicted without an order from a judge
- Go to every court hearing, whether in person or virtual
- Apply for assistance through CERA
 - Courts are allowing extra time for CERA assistance to be delivered
 - Stay on eviction proceedings for CERA applicants

CERA Implementation

Statewide emergency relief program for renters, launched March 15 2021

- \$560 million in assistance is available
 - Approx \$200 million allocated YTD
- 41 partner networks administering the funds
- More to come - funding included in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Wayne Metro Community Action Agency

- Serve all of Wayne County
 - Out-Wayne Network (*alongside ACCESS*)
 - Detroit, Highland Park, and Hamtramck (*alongside UCHC + THAW*)
- Administering approx. \$100 million in emergency financial assistance
 - Allocated \$51.6 million for 6,500 households
 - 4,000 applications currently assigned to a team member

The Benefits of CERA

CERA **Rental** Assistance

- Up to 13 to 15 months of rental assistance depending on income level
 - Includes back rent plus forward rent in three month installments (simple re-certification process for those who need add'l support after initial term)
 - Rent can be paid back to March 2020

CERA **Utility** Assistance

- Up to \$1,500 to \$2,500 depending on household size
 - Includes back payments plus future credit

CERA **Internet** Assistance

- \$300 stipend per household

*CERA is for
Tenants and
Landlords*

*Avg. Payout
\$7,925*

How to Apply

MSHDA Online Application

www.ceraapp.michigan.gov

A screenshot of the Michigan Covid Emergency Rental Assistance (CERA) online application interface. The header is dark teal with the text "Michigan Covid Emergency Rental Assistance (CERA)" and a "Login" button. Below the header, a teal banner says "Select Apply Now to authenticate & begin your application." The main content area is light gray. On the left, there is a red text block explaining the CERA program and a blue "Apply Now" button. Below the button are links for "View Local Contact Support #s", "PDF - Local Contact Support #s", "Check App Status", "View Dashboard", and "Partner Org Access Request". On the right, there is a "FAQ" section with links for "Applying / Intake - 11 Min", "Check Status / Self Service - 1 Min", and "Required Documents - 3 Min".

**For additional information or help
completing the application:**

Detroit, Highland Park, Hamtramck

866-313-2520

www.DetroitEvictionHelp.com

www.waynemetro.org/cera

Out-Wayne (all other cities in Wayne Co.)

734-284-6999 (option 1)

www.waynemetro.org/cera

Oakland County

888-441-1742

www.communityhousingnetwork.org

Macomb County

586-213-5757

www.macombhc.com

Improving the Application Process

Applicants can now **self-certify**

- Income
- COVID Hardship
- Housing instability

*Wayne Metro's
processing has tripled
over the past month
(650+ households
assisted per week)*

Wayne Metro Enhancements

- Doubled staffing – WM has 150+ staff directly supporting CERA
- Bulk processing for larger landlords
- Appointments available to help navigate the online application
 - [Detroit, Highland Park, Hamtramck: 866-313-2520.](#)
 - [Out-Wayne: 734-284-6999](#)

To Get Started or To Get in Touch

MSHDA Online CERA Application

www.ceraapp.michigan.gov

Local CERA Resources

Detroit, Highland Park, Hamtramck

866-313-2520

www.DetroitEvictionHelp.com

Oakland County

888-441-1742

www.communityhousingnetwork.org

Out-Wayne (all other cities in Wayne Co.)

734-284-6999 (option 1)

www.waynemetro.org/cera

Macomb County

586-213-5757

www.macombhc.com