



As many organizations and faith communities may know, one of the most commonly received requests for assistance is financial help with rent or utility payments.

DMARC’s Housing Stability Fund provides emergency financial assistance to prevent families from becoming homeless. DMARC works in partnership with Polk County General Assistance to process program requests for rent and utilities assistance.

In Iowa, April 1 marks the end of the winter moratorium that prevents most low-income residents from having their utilities shut off. Many people can fall behind on utility bills during the winter (especially if it’s an extra cold one) and face a utility shutoff notice once April arrives. This situation can also lead to increased evictions in the spring as some families choose to keep their gas and electric on by paying past-due utility bills rather than their full amount of rent.

How to Request Assistance

To request help, contact General Assistance at **(515) 286-2088**. Housing Stability Fund program funds are extremely limited and disbursed only when available. One request per household in a 12-month period.

Support the Housing Stability Fund

Have you ever thought about what it might be like to not have heat when it’s cold? Or to be faced with the possibility of eviction? Maybe you’ve experienced these hardships yourself.

But you can help! Your contribution to DMARC’s Housing Stability Fund will help local families stay warm and in their homes.

In 2018, DMARC’s Housing Stability Fund distributed funds through two local congregations to immigrant and refugee families affected by flooding who did not qualify for federal disaster loan assistance.

History of the Housing Stability Fund

DMARC first began providing rent and utilities assistance in 1978 through our “Compassion in Action” program. In 2014, DMARC implemented the newly-named “Housing Stability Fund” with Polk County General Assistance to provide a coordinated service model for housing stability and homelessness prevention assistance in Polk County through streamlining and coordinating the intake and service delivery processes to make sure families get the help they need—when they need it.



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