



Need Help With Finding Housing?

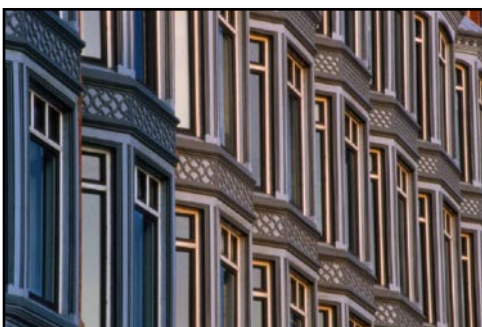
Your local ADAMH (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health) or Community Mental Health board should have a contact person who can help you find housing. Every Ohio county is served by a board and some boards serve multiple counties. Ask to speak with the person who can help you with housing issues.

Also, the State of Ohio has developed a web-based Rental Housing Locator for Internet users to search for affordable, accessible rental housing anywhere in Ohio: www.ohiohousinglocator.org. The site includes all subsidized rental housing in the state [HUD, public housing, rural housing and tax credit].

Can't Afford Housing? You May Be Eligible For Subsidies

Your local Public Housing Authority (PHA) may have conventional public housing units as well as Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers. If you are interested in public housing or a Section 8 voucher, please contact your local PHA. ODMH can provide you with a list of PHAs in the state. If your county isn't listed, contact the PHA in your closest neighboring county for assistance.

The federal department known as HUD has a list of HUD project-based housing available for each state. Call the Ohio HUD office at 614-469-5737 and a recording will prompt you to choose "1" and leave your name and address in a voice mailbox. HUD will then send you a list of low-income housing. If you have Internet access, you can obtain the same list of project-based housing from the HUD Web site: www.hud.gov. You can obtain information by state. Scroll down and click on Ohio, then refer to the Quick Links (mid right hand side), under Affordable Rentals.



Are You Being Evicted or Do You Have a Problem With Your Apartment?

If you are being evicted from an apartment or house, you should contact an attorney. If you can't afford an attorney, contact your local legal aid society to see if you qualify for free legal assistance.

If your local legal aid society can't help you, contact your local bar association to find out whether they have any pro bono (free) programs that might be able to assist you with your legal problem.

If you have additional housing-related questions or suggestions for improving this document, you can contact the Ohio Department of Mental Health at housing@mh.ohio.gov.



Department of
Mental Health

Are You Interested In Buying a Home? Ohio Has Some Home Ownership Programs

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) lists a number of state, regional and local programs available to help you buy a home. The best way to learn about these programs is to visit the HUD Web site at www.hud.gov. You can find information by state. Scroll down and click on Ohio. Then refer to the Quick Links (mid right hand side), under Homebuying Programs.



If you don't have access to a computer and are interested in a HUD loan, call the FHA Resource Center at 1-800-225-5342.

The Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) also has a First-Time Homeowner's Program. More information on this program can be obtained by contacting them at 614-466-7970 or referring to their Web site: www.ohiohome.org. Look under programs to find the information on home ownership.

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit agency that builds affordable housing for people in need. To find out how to contact your local chapter, call Habitat for Humanity of Ohio at 614-477-6190 or visit their Web site at: www.habitatforhumanityofohio.org.

Are You Experiencing Housing Discrimination Because of a Mental Illness?

If you believe you have been discriminated against in housing because of mental illness or a physical disability, you can contact Ohio Legal Rights Service (OLRS) to request information and advocacy assistance. They may be able to assist you with problems related to rental housing, structural modifications of rental housing to accommodate a disability, assistance animals, zoning for group homes, the federal Fair Housing Act, and other housing issues. OLRS is an independent state agency that advocates for people with disabilities. There is no charge for their services. Additional information is available on their Web site at www.olrs.ohio.gov, or call toll-free 1-800-282-9181.

Are You Concerned About Foreclosure?

If you are concerned about a possible foreclosure, you can find out more about avoiding foreclosure at the following HUD site: www.hud.gov/local/oh/homeownership/foreclosure.cfm.

If you are being foreclosed upon, you might not have money to hire an attorney to represent you in the matter. A local legal aid office may be able to help you defend against a foreclosure. To locate legal aid services for the county in which you live, call 1-866-LAW-Ohio or 1-866-529-6446. If your local legal aid can't assist you and your foreclosure has signs of predatory lending (fraud), contact the Equal Justice Foundation at 614-221-9800 or toll-free at 1-800-898-0545. If you can't find representation through legal aid or anyone else, contact your local bar association to find out whether they have any pro bono (free) programs that you could access.

