

**Asian American Crisis Relief Fund  
Emergency Financial Assistance Resources**

\*This list has been compiled by the anonymous charitable foundation who funds this program (last updated Summer 2020)

**The largest source of one-time emergency financial assistance in New York City is the Human Resource Administration (HRA).** They provide "One Shot" assistance for many types of emergencies, including rental arrears, storage fees, utilities, and health/personal items, among others. In some instances they do require people to pay back the funds eventually. Please check to see whether the person you are working with qualifies for their assistance: <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/hra/help/cash-assistance.page>

**Homeless/Eviction Prevention Help**

- Many tenants across NYC now have a "right to counsel" for free legal representation in Housing Court. The program is only available right now in certain zip codes and limited by household income. Up-to-date information is here: <https://www.evictionfreenyc.org/en-US/> and here: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/hra/help/legal-services-for-tenants.page>
- Homebase, a NYC government program, can provide emergency financial assistance to prevent eviction: <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/dhs/prevention/homebase.page>
- Housing Court Answers does not provide financial assistance, but is a main intake resource for many NYC organizations (including The Bridge Fund) that do provide financial assistance for housing issues: <http://housingcourtanswers.org/>
- Family Eviction Prevention Supplement (FHEPS) is a NYC HRA program to help pay rental arrears as well as ongoing rental assistance for five years: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/hra/help/fheps.page>
- Catholic Charities can bundle its eviction prevention funds together with another source of funding to pay rental arrears: <https://catholiccharitiesny.org/what-we-do/feeding-hungry-sheltering-homeless?servicegroup=654>
- The Bridge Fund of New York provides financial assistance with rent arrears to low-income New Yorkers. Qualified referrals are made only through Housing Court Answers: <http://housingcourtanswers.org/>
- Community Service Society has an income support program to help with eviction prevention, utility arrears, and summer camp: <http://www.cssny.org/programs/entry/income-support-services>
- Coalition for the Homeless runs an eviction prevention hotline and can offer emergency funds for those who qualify: <http://www.coalitionforthehomeless.org/get-help/im-being-evicted/>

**Utility Help**

- Con Edison does provide payment options and help for seniors, people with medical hardships or disabilities, and people who need life sustaining equipment, among others: <https://www.coned.com/en/accounts-billing/payment-plans-assistance>
- National Grid (which provides gas services to some NYC residents) has several payment assistance programs: <https://www.nationalgridus.com/NY-Home/Bill-Help/>.
- Heartshare administers several grant programs to help people struggling to pay their utilities: <https://www.heartshare.org/our-programs/energy-assistance-and-community-development/>
- Community Service Society offers help with utility arrears through its Income Support Program: <https://www.cssny.org/programs/entry/income-support-services>

**Senior Citizens**

- Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) is a NYC Dept of Finance program to prevent rent increases for seniors in rent-stabilized housing: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/rentfreeze/index.page>
- Jarvie Commonweal Service has an emergency grants and stipendiary program for Protestant seniors: <https://www.jarvie.org/>
- Parodneck Foundation offers emergency financial assistance for housing issues: <http://www.parodneckfoundation.org/programs/schap/>
- For retired seniors in Manhattan, the Isaac H. Tuttle Fund provides modest monthly stipends: <http://www.tuttlefund.org/stipendiary-program/> (Agency referrals only.)
- Assistance with purchasing hearing aids: <https://www.starkeyhearingfoundation.org/Hearing-Assistance>

## Special Populations

- Those born under the British flag may seek financial assistance from the St. George's Society: <https://www.stgeorgessociety.org/beneficiary-program>
- DC 37 union members may seek free legal, housing, childcare, and some financial assistance: <http://www.dc37.net/about/services>
- Actors and other entertainment professionals may qualify for emergency financial assistance from The Actors Fund: <http://www.actorsfund.org/services-and-programs/social-services-and-financial-assistance>
- Scottish citizens may seek financial assistance from the St. Andrew's Society: <http://www.standrewsnyc.org/content/almoners> (They have Almoners too!)
- Holocaust survivors may seek financial and other assistance from The Blue Card: <http://www.bluecardfund.org/how-we-help.html>
- People living with HIV who do not qualify for HASA assistance might receive help with rent through the NYC Rental Assistance Fund: <http://hafnyc.org/services/>
- For artists, the Rauschenberg Emergency Grants program provides one-time help for unexpected medical emergencies: <https://www.nyfa.org/Content/Show/Rauschenberg-Emergency-Grants>
- Gary Sinise Foundation provides financial assistance to veterans and first responders: <https://www.garysinisefoundation.org/hope/>

## People Affected by Cancer

- People affected by cancer may contact Cancer Care for information about financial assistance: <http://www.cancercare.org/financial>
- The Cancer Financial Assistance Coalition also has resources and referrals for financial assistance: <http://www.cancerfac.org/>
- The Sarah Grace Foundation provides financial and other help to children with cancer and their families: <http://thesarahgracefoundation.org/>
- St. George's Society offers financial assistance to British citizens affected by pediatric cancer traveling to New York for medical treatment: <https://www.stgeorgessociety.org/family-support>

## Legal Help

- If someone needs an attorney, but cannot afford to hire one, please use <http://www.lawhelpnyc.org/> to find free legal aid in New York, or call the City Bar Legal Hotline at (212) 626-7383.
- NYC now funds free attorneys in eviction cases in certain zip codes around the city. Visit <https://www.evictionfreenyc.org/> to learn more.
- Some legal services providers have access to charitable funds to help with emergency situations. If you are working with a legal services agency, check with your contact about available financial assistance.

## Funeral Services

- HRA will pay up to \$900 towards funeral expenses that do not exceed \$1,700 in total: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/hra/help/burial-claims-application-process.page>
- VOLS has a Burial Guide for low-income New Yorkers listing financial resources available: <http://www.volsprobono.org/sites/default/files/pdf/vols-burial-guide.pdf>
- The Tears Foundation helps with funeral expenses for babies: <http://www.thetearsfoundation.org/>
- Hebrew Free Burial Association offers burial assistance to low-income Jews: <http://www.hebrewfreeburial.org/>
- St. George's Society offers free cremation and burial to low-income British citizens in one of three designated cemeteries in the tri-state area: <https://www.stgeorgessociety.org/our-history/>
- NYS Veterans Affairs offers supplement funeral assistance for families of service members who died in combat: <http://veterans.ny.gov/content/new-york-state-supplemental-burial-allowance>

## Food

- Food Bank for New York City maintains a list of soup kitchens, food pantries, senior centers, and SNAP enrollment sites by neighborhood: <https://www.foodbanknyc.org/get-help/>
- City Harvest also maintains a list with the city: <http://foodhelp.nyc/emergency-assistance-en/>
- Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing has a list of meal programs and pantries by borough: <https://iahh.org/Resources>
- If a beneficiary receives SNAP already, the Health Bucks program is available to stretch those funds farther: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/health-bucks.page>

## Transportation

- NYC now has a half-off fares program for Metrocards for low-income New Yorkers: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/fairfares/index.page>

## Clothing

- Winter coats: <https://www.newyorkcares.org/coat-drive/walk-in>
- New York Cares' list of orgs that accept clothing donations is a good place to start to find clothing assistance: <https://www.newyorkcares.org/clothing>

## Home Modifications

- Adele Friedman Housing Accessibility Fund provides assistance to people with disabilities that require modifications to their home: <https://www.fairhousingjustice.org/resources/afhaf/>

## Veterinary Services

- The Humane Society provides some financial help to elderly or disabled owners of acutely ill pets: <http://www.humanesocietyny.org/about/mission.php>
- Red Rover provides financial assistance to pet owners whose pets have life-threatening illnesses. Red Rover also provides grants for boarding and/or vet care for domestic violence survivors: <https://redrover.org/>

## Summer Camp

- Community Service Society offers help with summer camp scholarships through its Income Support Program: <https://www.cssny.org/programs/entry/income-support-services>

### **Dental Services**

- Dental Lifeline provides dental help for seniors, people with disabilities, and people who qualify as medically fragile: <https://dentallifeline.org/new-york/>
- NYC keeps a list of low-cost dental clinics in all five boroughs: <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/oralhealth/dental-all-boroughs.pdf>

### **Emergency Social Services**

- Coalition for the Homeless has a comprehensive online resource guide of emergency services in New York City: <http://www.coalitionforthehomeless.org/resource-guide/>

### **Public Benefits Screening**

- Single Stop screens for government supports, including health insurance, food stamps, cash assistance, unemployment, child care, WIC, Social Security funds, and more. There are many locations in NYC: <http://singlestopusa.org/locations/>
- Earn Benefits screens for government supports at some agencies around the city as well: <https://www.earnbenefits.org/new-york/screening-locations/>

### **Bail Funds**

The following nonprofit organizations pay bail for New Yorkers who can't afford even modest amounts, and who would be jailed or forced to plead guilty just to go home:

- Bronx Freedom Fund: <http://www.thebronxfreedomfund.org/>
- Washington Square Legal Services Bail Fund: <http://wslsbf.org/>
- Emergency Release Fund (for trans people): <https://emergencyreleasefund.com/>

### **Immigration Bond Funds**

The following organizations pay bonds for immigrants held in detention in New York:

- LIFE Bond Fund: [https://www.newsanctuarynyc.org/life\\_bond\\_fund](https://www.newsanctuarynyc.org/life_bond_fund)
- New York Immigrant Freedom Fund: <https://nyimmigrantfreedom.org/>

### **Other Financial Assistance Funds**

- Hebrew Free Loan Society provides interest-free loans to low and moderate income New Yorkers: <https://hfls.org/loan-programs/>
- Benevolent use online crowdsourcing to grant needed funds to low-income people around the country, including New Yorkers: <http://www.benevolent.net>