

Housing Information for Residents in Orange County

Prepared by Town of Chapel Hill's Affordable Housing and Community Connections Department

Last Updated: May 2025



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Community Empowerment Fund (CEF)

CEF's services include help locating resources and navigating systems, financial coaching, free matched savings, and more for residents experiencing (or at-risk of experiencing) homelessness.

- Website: www.communityempowermentfund.org
- Contact Number: 919-200-0233; 919-283-6820 (Español)
- Contact Email: ch@communityempowermentfund.org

IFC Commons

Offers groceries, showers, hot meals, clothing vouchers, assistance obtaining IDs and birth certificates, information and referrals, and financial assistance for rent, utilities, and other immediate needs. Available for those who live or work in Chapel Hill or Carrboro.

- Website: www.ifcweb.org
- Program Number: 919-929-6380
- Program Address: 110 W. Main Street in Carrboro on the J bus route

EmPOWERment Inc.

EmPOWERment Inc. offers emergency utility assistance through its MOM Utility Fund to assist low-income residents in Orange County with paying their past due utility bills.

- Program Contact: Sarita Nwachukwu
- Contact Number: 919-967-8779
- Contact email: empowermentincnc@gmail.com

Orange County's Longtime Homeowner Assistance Project

Orange County provides assistance to County residents to help pay for the current year's tax bill, up to the entire Orange County portion of a resident's property tax bill.

- Program Contact: Aaron Cohen
- Contact Number: 919-245-2491
- Contact Email: acohen@orangecountync.gov



EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Orange County Housing Helpline

Information about rent and utility assistance, evictions, and homeless services. Interpretation is available. (Monday-Friday)

- Helpline Number: 919-245-2655 - Please leave a detailed message.
- Helpline Email: housinghelp@orangecountync.gov - Please provide as much information in your email as possible. We will reply to you by the end of the next business day.
- Walk-in Hours: Mondays from 10am-1pm at IFC Community Kitchen, or Tuesdays & Thursdays from 8:30am-4pm at Southern Human Services Building (2501 Homestead Rd., Chapel Hill NC)
- The county maintains a list of available affordable units, updated weekly found on this spreadsheet: tinyurl.com/muferzcx.

Orange County Emergency Housing Assistance

Provides residents of Orange County facing eviction with limited financial assistance.

- To apply, call the Housing Helpline or complete the program application online or at one of our offices.
- www.orangecountync.gov/2359/Emergency-Housing-Assistance.
- Applications are in English and in Spanish. If another language is needed, interpretation is available.



HOME OWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AND COUNSELING

Community Home Trust (CHT)

CHT offers permanently affordable homeownership opportunities for low- and- moderate-income households. They also provide step-by-step support through the entire process.

- Website: www.communityhometrust.org
- Program Contact: Deja Gilmore
 - Number: 919-967-1545 ext. 301
 - Email: dgilmore@communityhometrust.org
- Homeownership Application (Online Submission)
 - www.communityhometrust.org/online-application/
- Homeownership Application (Fillable Document)
 - www.communityhometrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2021-PDF-Application-packet-new-logo-temporary.pdf
 - Homeownership Application (Español)
 - www.communityhometrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2021-Spanish-Application-new-logo-temporary.pdf

El Centro Hispano

El Centro Hispano's Support Services Department assists community members in locating housing information, tools, and resources to improve their quality of life. Services include referrals, case management, interpretation/translation, and more.

- Website: www.elcentronc.org
- Contact Number: 919-945-0132
- Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/elCentroHispanoNC/

EmPOWERment Inc.

EmPOWERment Inc. Is a HUD certified Housing Counseling Agency offering free counseling services in Financial Management/Budgeting, Mortgage Delinquency and Default Resolution, Pre-purchase Counseling, and Rental Housing Counseling. They offer educational workshops in Fair Housing pre-purchase, non-delinquency post-purchase, Pre-Purchase Homebuyers education, Rental Housing, and resolving/preventing mortgage delinquency.,

- Program Contact: Sharron Reid
- Contact Number 919-967-8779
- Contact email; empowermentincnc@gmail.com

Habitat for Humanity of Orange County

Habitat for Humanity offers affordable homeownership opportunities to families in Orange County. Interested applicants can complete the Homebuyer Interest Form to be notified about future opportunities.

- Website: www.orangehabitat.org
- Homebuyer Interest Form
 - www.orangehabitat.org/closedapplications
- Habitat Number: 919-932-7077



RENTAL OPPORTUNITIES

CASA

CASA provides affordable, supportive apartments for underserved households in Wake, Durham and Orange Counties.

- Website: www.casanc.org
- Contact Number: 919-754-9960
- Contact Email: casahousing@casanc.org

DHIC

DHIC develops rental communities and provides homebuyer support for underserved families in the Raleigh, Durham, and Chapel Hill area.

- Website: www.dhic.org
- Contact Number: 919-832-4345
- Contact Email: info@dhic.org

EmPOWERment Inc.

EmPOWERment provides affordable rental housing opportunities and housing counseling services to residents in Orange County.

- Website: www.empowermentinc.org
- Contact Number: 919-967-8779
- Contact Email: empowermentincnc@gmail.com



HOME REPAIRS & DISPLACEMENT ASSISTANCE

DMAP

Helps low- and- moderate-income manufactured housing residents facing displacement caused by manufactured home park closure, redevelopment or natural disaster.

EmPOWERment, Inc. assists in this effort. Currently, the D-MAP budget has approximately \$53,000 available.

- Website: www.townofchapelhill.org/Home/Components/News/News/14478/3317
- Contact Number: 919-967-8779
- Contact Email: empowermentincnc@gmail.com

Orange County Home Preservation Coalition

The Orange County Home Preservation Coalition (OCHPC) is a collaborative of organizations that provide home repairs and modifications to Orange County residents.

- Website: <https://www.orangecountync.gov/2465/Home-Preservation-Coalition>
- Initial Screening: https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3eZlTVA0WISyjT7
- Contact Number: 919-843-2374
- Contact Email: ochpc@orangecountync.gov
- Mailing Address: PO Box 4099, Cary, NC 27519

Orange County Single Family Rehabilitation Program

Provides large home repairs for homeowners to extend the life of their home. This assistance is in the form of a zero-interest loan, with a maximum amount of \$40,000.

- Website: www.orangecountync.gov/2211/Home-Repair-Programs
- Program Application: www.orangecountync.gov/DocumentCenter/View/12471/Single-Family-Rehab-Application?bidId=
- Program Contact: David Saconn
- Number: 919-245-2494
- Email: dsaconn@orangecountync.gov

Orange County Urgent Repair Program

Finances the cost of home repairs that are urgent and necessary to the health and safety of the household. This assistance is in the form of a zero-interest loan, with a maximum amount of \$12,000.

- Website: www.orangecountync.gov/2211/Home-Repair-Programs
- Program Application: https://www.nchfa.com/sites/default/files/page_attachments/URP20ApplicationandEligibilityForm.pdf
- Program Contact: David Saconn
- Number: 919-245-2494
- Email: dsaconn@orangecountync.gov



LEGAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Orange County Eviction Diversion Program

Helps Orange County residents with legal issues regarding housing and eviction cases. If you have received court papers or a letter from your landlord saying you must move, you may receive a free legal consultation with a lawyer who will review your case.

- Website: www.orangecountync.gov/2468/Eviction-Diversion-Program
- Intake Survey
 - https://orange-county-eviction-diversion-program.mycase.com/contact_us/xjS4PUE82HYocM9WRshAmHUS
- Program Phone Number: 919-245-2487

Orange County Civil Rights Program

This program assists residents who have experienced a violation of Fair Housing or Public Accommodations laws, or the local Civil Rights ordinance.

- Website: <https://orangecountync.gov/3376/Civil-Rights-Fair-Housing>
- Email: civilrights@orangecountync.gov
- Program Phone Number: 919-245-2487

Legal Aid of North Carolina: Tenant Rights Clinic

Offers free legal information to tenants to learn more about their rights and duties. All clinics are held virtually on Facebook Live and Zoom.

Legal Aid also provides legal representation, advice, referrals, and information on housing discrimination.

- Website: www.legalaidnc.org/get-help/self-help-clinics/tenant-rights-clinic
- Helpline Number: 866-219-5262
- Facebook Live Recorded Clinics
 - www.facebook.com/LegalAidNC/live_videos/



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For additional housing related resources, visit the Affordable Housing webpage at www.chapelhillaffordablehousing.org or contact HousingandCommunity@townofchapelhill.org.

Visit the OC Connect Resource Database at thecef.secure.force.com.

For additional emergency financial assistance resources, see the OC Connect Emergency Financial Assistance Resources at tinyurl.com/occonnectefa.