



The Gunnison Valley Regional Housing Authority understands that the current COVID-19 situation is difficult for everyone. To keep ourselves, our clients and our entire community informed, healthy, and comfortable, we wanted to share both information and resources from many different sources. This email contains information from Gunnison County, links for the work force, resources for everyone, links small business owners, links for landlords, and information for tenants.

We hope that you find some, or all, of this information useful. Please feel free to share the email with anyone who may find it useful and please let us know if you feel there is information that should be added!

FROM GUNNISON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

The following patients with COVID-19 symptoms are asked to please call the call center at 970-641-7660.

- Healthcare workers
- Employed in public safety occupation (e.g., law enforcement, fire fighter, EMS)
- Part of an illness cluster in a facility or institution (e.g., healthcare, school, corrections, shelters)
- With severe lower respiratory illness (hospitalized or fatal)
- With worsening symptoms
- Older than 60 years
- With underlying medical conditions
- Pregnant women
- Had contact with a lab-confirmed COVID-19 patient

You can also email questions to callcenter@gunnisoncounty.org

If you are showing symptoms the self-reporting form can be found here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdIrM6gJ4KDrqHYyPIXWTXHfbO2K-9gZEBin7Gi88KalKb-OA/viewform>

If you are beginning to recover, the self-reporting form can be found here

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjmckgwMrAJfXpvDPnMnaudxPjI29n6vyv0SwVjJmOj6rZyg/viewform>

For updates on orders, directives, and actions in Gunnison County, please continue to visit <https://www.gunnisoncounty.org/938/Coronavirus-COVID-19>

GENERAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- This website has a ton of information for the State of Colorado including resources for employees, businesses, Orders issued by Governor Polis, and statistics <https://choosecolorado.com/covid19/>
- Free breakfast and sack lunch for kids 18 and under
 - Available at CBCS and Gunnison Community Schools
 - Mon-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
 - Drive through/walk-up at Pick-up/Drop-off loop in front parking lot
- For information from the State of Colorado for businesses and employees take a look at the information on this site <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/EMPLOYER-UPDATES---COVID-19-resources-and-news.html?soid=1103481512963&aid=Ty0IVVvmwXw>

SHOPPING HOURS FOR THOSE AT HIGH RISK

- Walmart: Starting on Tues, March 24th, Walmart will be dedicating 6:00am-7:00am hours to age 60+ every Tuesday.
- Safeway will be allowing shopping for the elderly, immunocompromised, pregnant, and other people with health conditions on Tuesday and Thursday 7:00am-9:00am.
- Clark's Market in Crested Butte has Senior Shopping Hours from 8:00am-9:00am each day for residents 60+ years of age.
- City Market: Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7:00am-8:00am is available for anyone 60+.
- Gunnison Country Food Pantry is open but practicing social distancing by only allowing one patron in to the pantry at a time. The Food Pantry is open on Mondays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Wednesday from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and for Seniors 60 and older on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. They are located at 321-C N. Main Street on the SW corner of Main and Ohio.

RESOURCES FOR THE WORKFORCE

We have been hard at work trying to find a way to help out-of-work employees throughout the valley. Below is a list of various resources regarding income and employment:

- If you have been laid off temporarily apply for unemployment at [https://www.colorado.gov/cdle/unemployment or coloradoui.gov](https://www.colorado.gov/cdle/unemployment%20or%20coloradoui.gov)
- Connecting Colorado is another great resource for finding permanent or temporary employment. <https://www.connectingcolorado.com/>
- The following local businesses are hiring:
 - City Market apply at jobs.citymarket.com
 - Safeway apply at [Albertsons.com](https://albertsons.com), scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "Careers"
 - Walmart apply at Walmart.com/careers

Please understand, we do not have any history or affiliation with any of the websites below. They were all found and reviewed by our office, but we do not guarantee that you will receive assistance from them. Please check the integrity of the organization yourself before applying. There are

many more sites for different types of employment and situations, we have listed the sites that we felt were most relevant to our valley at this time.

- The Support Workers In Crisis site <https://ofwemergencyfund.org/> can offer help for tipped employees that have been laid off.
- The Bartender Emergency Assistance Program offers grants specifically to bartenders, their application process is a little more detailed and the qualifications are listed on their homepage. <https://www.usbgfoundation.org/beap?fbclid=IwAR3xNb1xWcXHKCYlvBttRxsXjLCktqjEE5E4wYsoswx2GVqxEXiYYkg1q8>
- If you are an artist, this site has a ton of resources for you <https://www.americansforthearts.org/by-topic/disaster-preparedness/coronavirus-covid-19-resource-and-response-center>
- If you took time off for COVID-19 testing you may qualify for up to 4 paid days off of work. <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdle/colorado-health-emergency-leave-pay-%E2%80%9Ccolorado-help%E2%80%9D-rules>
- The State also has a resource page for both employers and employees that has quite a bit of useful information and can be found here <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/EMPLOYER-UPDATES---COVID-19-resources-and-news.html?soid=1103481512963&aid=Ty0IVVvmwXw>

PERSONAL FINANCE

- Insurance companies are doing what they can to help also! Many insurance companies are pausing cancellations due to non-payment of policies until April 30, 2020. They will also work with you to help figure out a repayment plan that will work for you. If you are concerned about payment of your policy, please contact your insurer directly.
- Contact your lenders! If you are paying on any type of loan, contact your lender directly and see if they can offer a deferment of your payments. Federal Student Loans, large mortgage companies, and many other financial institutions are working to help their clients through this difficult time.
- Many credit card companies are willing to work with their customers. If you are unable to pay call them directly and see if they will work with you.
- This link have 10 ways for home owners to increase energy efficiency and reduce energy bills <https://www.energysage.com/energy-efficiency/101/ways-to-save-energy/>
- This link shares 25 ways to save while grocery shopping <https://www.mymoneycoach.ca/blog/budget-grocery-shopping-tips-to-save-money.html>
- More tips for utility savings for homeowners can be found here <https://www.thesimpledollar.com/investing/real-estate/18-things-a-new-homeowner-should-do-immediately-to-save-money/>
- Fannie May mortgage assistance programs and information can be found here <https://www.knowyouroptions.com/covid19assistance>

HOUSING AND UTILITIES

On March 20, 2020 Governor Polis RELEASED an Executive Order regarding housing and utility payments. Below is a summary of his Executive Order:

The Governor announced that the state will be taking action to provide relief from evictions, foreclosures, and utility shut-offs. The Governor is directing the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) to work with state-chartered financial institutions to address the threat of residential and commercial foreclosures and displacement. The Governor is requesting that municipal and county governments refrain from using law enforcement to carry out evictions or foreclosures against Colorado families unless there is a threat to public safety. He is also encouraging banks, credit unions, and other financial institutions holding residential or commercial mortgages to follow the lead of the Federal Housing Finance Agency and halt foreclosures and related evictions that are due to income reductions because of the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, the Governor is requesting these financial institutions consider providing a 90-day deferment of payment for all consumer loans, including residential and commercial mortgages, refinances, auto loans, and student loans, and small business loans. The state is also requesting that all public utilities suspend service disconnections for delayed or missed payments from residential and small business consumers.

The Governor is also requesting that all property owners and landlords refrain from removing tenants or mobile homeowners without cause or as a result of late rent payment or minor tenancy violations through April 30, unless public safety requires it. Finally, he is asking that all property owners and landlords refrain from imposing a fee for the late payment or nonpayment of rent through the end of April.

- If you are unable to pay for utilities/services please contact your provider! Most providers will not disconnect you during this time, but they do need to speak to you about their policies and/or repayment options.
 - City of Gunnison: 970-641-8070
 - GCEA: In Gunnison call 970-641-3520, in Crested Butte call 970-349-5385
 - Atmos Energy: 1-888-286-6700
 - Waste Management: 970-349-1033

LANDLORDS

- There are numerous options for low interest loans available through [ChooseColorado.com](https://www.choosecolorado.com)

TENANTS

- For GVRHA Tenants, we emailed policy regarding rent payment deferrals. If you need for us to send you another copy of the policy and application please email cpeterson@gvrha.org.
- For Tenants of private landlords and property managers:
 - If you are unable to pay rent in full and on time, contact your landlord, many are willing to waive late fees and/or set up payment plans
 - You can also apply through Gunnison County Health and Human Services for a grant to help cover up to \$900 of your housing costs. Call DHHS at 970-641-3244 for more information on how to apply

FOR YOU, YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- If you or someone you know is experiencing depression or a crisis, reach out for help!
 - Call 1-800-273-8255
 - Text HOME to 741741
 - Chat online crisischat.org
 - Local number for Center for Mental Health 970-252-3200
- We all love the outdoors, and we are in a spot where we can easily access some relaxing and enjoyable activities in and around our community. The County is asking that you limit “high risk” activities. They are still encouraging everyone to get outside, but at this time the County says that “any need for search and rescue or emergency rescue will force first responders and your partners to break social distancing protocols and potentially expose them to COVID-19. One way to think about your risk choices would be to ask yourself if you would feel totally fine doing what you are doing with no partner, no rescue equipment and no evacuation plan. At this time you should not be relying on emergency services to provide a rescue during this pandemic.”

GUNNISON VALLEY REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

- For the safety of both staff and clients, we are doing our best to conduct business as normal by working remotely. Our public offices will remain closed until at least April 6, 2020, email will be the best way to contact staff until that time.
- Staff Contact Information:
 - Jennifer Kermode, Executive Director, jkermode@gvrha.org or 970-641-7901
 - Shannon Frias, Housing Program Manager, sfrias@gvrha.org or 970-641-7678
 - Chris Peterson, Housing Specialist & Manager, cpeterson@gvrha.org or 970-641-7900
 - Loren Ahonen, GV-HEAT Program Administrator, info@gvrha.org or 970-234-5613

We hope that everyone is able to remain healthy through this time.

Sincerely,



Chris Peterson
Housing Specialist & Manager