



UNITED WAY OF THE MID-SOUTH

DRIVING THE DREAM

POVERTY to PROSPERITY NEWS

July 2020



United Way's Relief Call Center powered by Driving The Dream

- 260 requests total (April - June)
- 143 calls received June 1-27
- Top requests:
 - Income (104)
 - Shelter/Housing (82)
 - Food & Nutrition (31)
 - Employment (12)
 - Healthcare (14)

Eviction Prevention Program to Launch in Early July 2020

Greater Memphis Financial Empowerment Center

Shelby County Government and the City of Memphis along with several other entities are launching an eviction prevention program in early July. Funded in part by CARES Act money and in-kind legal services donations by Memphis Area Legal Services and the University of Memphis Law School, the group will work together with several non-profits focused on housing and counseling including United Housing, Shelby County Community Services Agency, Neighborhood Preservation, Inc., BLDG Memphis and the Greater Memphis Financial Empowerment Center (GMFEC) sponsored by the Trustee's office, to help save renters from eviction. Rental property owners are a part of this project and will be involved in entering into payment plans with the renters currently behind on their rent. Innovate Memphis will provide analysis and results of the program.

Read the full statement [here](#). More details will be provided as soon as they are available.

Help for People Facing Eviction

Greater Memphis Financial Empowerment Center

If your income and employment have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and not yet recovered, Regina Morrison Newman, Shelby County Trustee and the Greater Memphis Financial Empowerment Center (GMFEC) want to help you navigate a path to resolving eviction situations.

Below is a list of agencies and groups that are helping people facing eviction now that the eviction moratorium has been lifted. There are currently 9,000 eviction cases pending in Shelby County courts with 300 disposed of on the first day!

Contact any of these groups for assistance in navigating eviction proceedings:

- [Memphis Area Legal Services](#), (901) 523-8822, 22 N. Front, 11th Floor
- [Community Legal Center](#), (901) 543-3395, 243 Adams
- [901LegalConnect.org](#), (901) 527-3573, 145 Court, Suite 301
- 2nd Saturday Legal Aid Clinic, next set for 10 to 11:45 a.m., July 11, Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library
- [Shelby County Community Services Agency](#) (901) 222-4281, 3772 S. Hickory Ridge Mall, No. 516
- [Memphis Interfaith Association](#), (901) 527-0208, 910 Vance
- [Community Alliance for the Homeless](#), (901) 527-1302, 44 N. Second

Keep in mind that many of these agencies may still be working remotely, so it is best to call first. If you want help reworking your budget, negotiating with creditors or just to review your current credit situation, please contact the GMFEC at (901) 390-4200 or [click here](#) for an appointment. Our counselors are meeting with clients via telephone or video chat.

Upcoming Training Opportunities

Driving The Dream Systems Training: CaseWorthy - [Register](#)

For assistance with the CaseWorthy system, including training and login issues, please contact Candace.Sanders@uwmidssouth.org. For all other questions or concerns related to DTD technical systems, please contact Eric.Burden@uwmidssouth.org.

Leadership Memphis invites you to join our Virtual Conversations as we talk about Leadership during COVID-19. View upcoming webinars and archives [here](#).

Momentum Nonprofit Partners to host virtual training opportunities - [Register](#) for an upcoming session

Partner Agency Updates

For now, almost all of our DTD partner agencies are staying put and have not yet implemented plans to reopen. We will share status and reopening plans as they become available from our partners.

- **Refugee Empowerment Center** - REP will host summer programming for youth in grades K-12 from June 29 - August 7, Monday - Friday, from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. We continue to offer cultural navigation and integration support to families via our cultural brokers. We are in discussions with adults about when and how to resume ESOL and citizenship readiness classes.
- **United Way's Free Tax Prep Program** - Individuals and families who qualify for Free Tax Prep – with incomes less than \$56,000 in 2019 – can file their taxes using the Drive-Thru Drop-Off operation at the United Way Plaza, 1005 Tillman Street. Volunteers will direct traffic.. This service will continue through to July 15, except for Friday and Saturday, July 3rd & 4th. Our operating hours are Monday through Saturday, 10am - 2pm.. Click [here](#) for more information.

DTD Updates

If your agency has an update to share, please email Chelsea.Brock@uwmidssouth.org or Karlescja.Brookins@uwmidssouth.org so we can maintain accurate information. Additionally, you can contact your associate to provide, or receive, updated information.

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