



## Neighbors Helping Neighbors Program

This program provides assistance to qualified Roeland Park resident homeowners for exterior home improvements using volunteers and contract labor. Those who meet income guidelines can get assistance with a variety of exterior home repairs and yard maintenance, such as:

- Repair or replacement of damaged shutters, wood-siding shingles, and guttering;
- Improvements, modification, and installation of aids for disabled persons, such as ramps and handrails;
- Exterior painting;
- Minor repair of windows, storm doors, and garage doors;
- Yard maintenance, cutting grass, leaf/stick removal;
- Tree, shrub, and bush removal/trimming.

[Neighbors Helping Neighbors Brochure](#)

[Program Application](#)

[Apply Online](#)

## Community Revitalization Program

The City of Roeland Park and [Heartland Habitat for Humanity](#) have partnered to bring neighborhood revitalization to the City through minor exterior home repairs. Projects include:

- Landscaping
- Painting
- Weatherization
- Wheelchair ramp installation

Labor is completed by volunteers and homeowners. As a result, individuals and families remain in their homes longer, avoid code violations, and realize energy cost savings and increased home values.

Homes selected for the program are identified by the City's Code Enforcement Department. [Contact Heartland Habitat for Humanity](#) if you are interested in volunteering.

## Johnson County Homebuyer Assistance Program

[The Johnson County Housing Services Homebuyer Assistance Program](#) is designed to assist low to moderate income Johnson County residents, or persons who have been employed for at least two consecutive years in Johnson County, with down payment / closing cost assistance towards the purchase of a home.

This program provides a deferred payment loan at 0% interest and is forgiven 10% per year for 10 years. After 10 years, the loan is completely forgiven.

The program is made possible through the HOME Investment Partnership grant, which is awarded to Johnson County Housing Services by the [United States Department of Housing and Urban Development](#).

## **Johnson County Minor Home Rehabilitation Program**

The [Minor Home Repair Program's](#) goals are to address health and safety concerns, as well as accessibility for persons with disabilities. This program provides grant funds for repairs that include:

- Carpentry
- Electrical
- Exterior painting
- Furnace / central air conditioner
- Handicap accessibility
- Masonry
- Plumbing
- Roof replacement

These repairs may be provided to remedy a city citation or notification by a city/county code inspector of a deficiency for deteriorating or peeling paint. The City Council elected to double its funding level of this program in 2019 to \$9,000 which will help more residents receive help with home repairs.

## **Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity**

Johnson County Housing Services provides services in line with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Fair Housing Law. The mission of the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) is to eliminate housing discrimination, promote economic opportunity, and achieve diverse, inclusive communities by leading the nation in the enforcement, administration, development, and public understanding of federal fair housing policies and laws. FHEO protects people from discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, and familial status.

The [FHEO website](#) offers topics on Fair Housing Law and the Fair Housing Act, and information for People with Disabilities and on Senior Housing, as well as how to File A Housing Complaint. The FHEO library offers a variety of Fair Housing Publications.

The [HUD Home page](#) offers more information for Landlords, Renters, Home Owners, and for Housing Counseling.

## [Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity](#)

## **HOME Program**

Managed by the Johnson County Department of Human Services, The [HOME Program](#) assists eligible Johnson County homeowners with rehabilitation of their homes to bring them into compliance with local housing codes (Housing Quality Standards).

The HOME Program assists eligible homeowners of Johnson County, Kansas with rehabilitation needs of their owner-occupied homes. The program will bring a home or dwelling into compliance with local housing codes and address health and safety issues.

Assistance is provided as a deferred payment loan (at 0% interest and is forgiven 10% per year for 10 years.) The loan instrument is recorded with the Johnson County Records & Tax Administration. If at any time the property changes ownership, the remaining amount of the loan must be repaid. The City of Roeland Park provides a match for residents to participate in this program.

## Johnson County, Kansas Assistance Programs

Apply for financial assistance, free items (school supplies, winter clothes, Christmas toys, etc.), and other help in Johnson County. Whether it is a grant from a charity to help with rent or a security deposit, government low income energy bill assistance, or free food from pantries or medical care from clinics, there are resources available. Find the main places to apply at for free stuff, job programs, gasoline vouchers, loans, or general, emergency financial help.

### Low Cost Housing

The **Johnson County Housing Coalition** (phone number: 913-390-0413) provides struggling families and other low-income individuals with affordable housing opportunities in Johnson County. The program is really targeted at low-income, disabled, and senior households. The organization keeps an inventory of almost 300 affordable and safe housing units for qualified families. In addition, the coalition partners with other community services to assist with housing and related issues, and they can refer people to other federal and Kansas state government programs.

### Free Legal Services

If you are facing a civil legal case and can't afford an attorney, **Kansas Legal Services** will provide free legal advice, consultations, and representation to Johnson county residents. They will only help with civil cases, not criminal cases.

Priorities are given to people who are age 60 and older or who may be lower income. The program will emphasize people who need help with domestic violence, families who are facing a foreclosure, social security disability, mediation services, and public entitlement cases. Call them at (913) 621-0200, or click [here](#) to read more on [free legal aid](#).

### Crisis Assistance Grants

Two local community action agencies offer assistance programs for Johnson County and Overland Park, Kansas residents. The options people can turn to for help include the **West Central Missouri Community Action Agency** as well as **ECKAN**.

**West Central Missouri Community Action Agency:** The WCMCAA is a non-profit agency that operates assistance programs, such as Employment and Job Training and Community Services (Family Intake/Assessment and Referral). There may be cash grants for emergency Energy Assistance, Rent Assistance, Housing, Homeless Program, and Family Support. Other resources include free Early Childhood Education; Energy Conservation; In-home Services; and Women's Health Services and Medical Care. Call them at (800) 293-3532, or click [here](#) for details on [West Central Missouri Community Action Agency](#).

**ECKAN:** - This Johnson County community action agency also offers various services and grants to help people pay bills. The offerings include the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program, which offers rental assistance and grants to low-income families. Call them at (785) 242-7450.

They also administer the ECKAN Weatherization Program, which helps people reduce their energy and heating bills. The program assists a target population consisting of the elderly, handicapped, and low-income families in the area and provides them with free energy conserving improvements to their homes.

Lower income families can also receive food assistance, free groceries, and other nutritional supplements from ECKAN. The East Central Kansas Economic Opportunity Corporation also helps families find new or better jobs. More on [ECKAN community action assistance programs](#).

## Free Health Care

People who are in need of health care in Johnson County can get assistance from **Health Partnership Clinic of Johnson County**. This facility provides medical care for low income, under and uninsured Johnson County residents. The health care clinic provides primary healthcare for both acute and chronic conditions. It can also provide people with specialty care services such as gynecology, orthopedics, dermatology, pulmonology, ENT, allergy/asthma, and internal medicine.

Other health care and dental services are available in the region, as well. This includes basic dental care, diagnostic testing, nutrition counseling, diabetes education, and assistance with paying for prescription medications. Patients are admitted by appointment only, so contact them early. There is also a partnership with [dental schools for free cleanings](#).

The health care and medical services are provided by volunteer health professionals with support of a small staff and other professionals. Services are provided free of charge with a suggested, minimum donation of \$10. (913) 648-2266. Find additional [medical care programs](#).

## Emergency Financial Assistance and Advice

**Catholic Charities of Olathe** and Johnson County, Kansas, which can be reached at (913) 782-4077, provides information and possible access to financial assistance programs for paying rent, energy bills, food, and other expenses.

**Catholic Charities of Overland Park** also offers emergency assistance. Dial (913) 384-6608. Funds for people with a utility disconnection notice or imminent eviction may be able to receive help.

The churches and social services that are part of Catholic Charities are offered across the entire region. They do much more than what is indicated above. For example, the agency may be able to offer free legal support to immigrants. Other family and self-sufficiency type services include emergency housing, shelter, and homeless prevention. Or investigate heating bill assistance for the cold Kansas winters. Click here [Northeastern Kansas Catholic Charities](#).

**Salvation Army of Olathe and Johnson County** provides casework, short-term emergency counseling and very limited amount of emergency financial assistance (as funding allows) to eligible low-income individuals and families in the community. The non-profit will also provide free holiday meals and gifts, including the Angel Tree. Free furniture or Christmas gifts and Thanksgiving dinners may be served, too. Money may also be offered for security deposits or clients can be placed into an emergency shelter. Call (913) 782-3640. Or find more [Johnson County Salvation Army programs](#).

**Urban League of Kansas** - The HUD approved agency offers counseling to renters and homeowners, with a focus on preventing foreclosures and evictions. As part of this process, clients can get information on government grant programs in Olathe for various housing or rental costs. Additional services exist, as well.

The center may also have information on [school supply assistance programs](#) for children from low income families. Parents can also learn about educational opportunities, such as the Urban League, which is committed to addressing root causes of poverty and financial struggles.

The League, which operates across the state, also helps the under or unemployed gain new skills for work and find employment. They also arrange credit counseling sessions in the Johnson County region, with a focus on reducing a client's debt and helping them improve their overall financial condition. Read [Kansas Urban League](#).

assistance programs and services to senior adults, those with disabilities, and low-income residents in need that qualify. Human Services' operates four different multi-service centers in Johnson County, and they are in Gardner, Lenexa, Mission, and Olathe.

Multi-Service Center staff can assist qualifying residents with their past due utility bills and provide assistance from a free food pantry. Human Services is also a vendor for the Kansas City Medicine Cabinet, offering vouchers for dental emergencies, durable medical equipment, vision, prescription drugs, and more. This means that various health and/or dental issues can be addressed too.

There is one number for all four centers. A phone agent will screen qualifying residents and schedule appointments at the center located closest to them. For more information on the centers, dial 913-715-6653.

**The Department of Family Services in Johnson County** also operates the cash assistance programs for people in poverty or on a low income. There are a few versions, and they include SSI disability as well as TANF, which is the new name for welfare. Both can provide cash grants for several bills and basic needs of families. Read [Johnson County public assistance](#).

Johnson County families **struggling with loans and debts** can get help. Free and low-cost services are available. There are a number of [programs and agencies that help with debt](#). Whether credit cards, medical, or other related services, it is never too late to start.

Low income tenants and the homeless can get help from **homeless prevention services**. Federal government money and local funds provide support to everyone from single moms to seniors or the disabled. Find help for rent, heating or water bills, and even free motel voucher programs. Locate more [eviction and rehousing help Johnson County](#).

**Temporary housing in Johnson County Kansas** - Non-profits and government agencies arrange for shelter and transitional units. Clients will also get help in locating and paying for permanent housing in the area. Other assistance includes meals, case management, and referrals as needed. Click here for [Johnson County transitional housing and shelter](#).

**Outreach Services** are available from several sites in the community. The locations may offer emergency assistance for heating bills or paying housing expenses, such as rent. Other programs may be medical equipment, case management, or government grants, such as ESG. The location helps residents obtain self-sufficiency through case management and other support. As funding allows, the center also runs a free food pantry, may have rent/mortgage payments and school supplies, too. More on [Johnson County Outreach Services](#).

**Operation Homefront** is for military members and their immediate family members. Counseling, advice, and more is offered. Assistance available in Johnson County, Kansas includes help for paying bills, such as medical expenses, home repair, travel, auto repairs, moving assistance, and transportation and housing, including mortgage/rental payment assistance. 7111 W. 151st Street, Overland Park, Kansas 66223. Call (816) 519-3473.

**Free basic needs are offered.** Or some families can shop for low cost items. Items available from charities and clothing closets are collected year-round and given to the less fortunate in Johnson County. Find clothes for work or school, baby supplies, furniture, school notebooks, shoes, and more. Other resources include Christmas gifts for children, as well as free school supplies or winter coats. Click for more information [free clothes and school supplies Johnson county Kansas](#).

**Johnson County Cross-Lines Community Outreach** administers over 10 different services for struggling families in the metro area. These include:

- Free food from a Community Annex Kitchen and pantry.
- A free computer lab and educational services.
- Basic needs and financial aid, including grants for security deposits, rehousing, and heating bill or rent help.
- Get more details on [Kansas government assistance](#).

Several other programs are provided. Read more at [Cross-Lines Community Outreach programs](#).

**Emergency housing assistance** - Johnson County Kansas families have access to funds to pay for rent, shelter, and short term, transitional housing. These and other programs may be offered to those who need help. Read more and find a listing of organizations to contact for [Olathe area rent assistance](#).

**Stabilization and emergency support** - There are resources focused on solving a financial crisis, as well as helping the family gain long term stability. Assistance ranges from grants for heating bills or rent to stop homelessness, a medical cabinet which offers dental care, medications, and loans out equipment, and more. The stabilization may provide bus passes for a job, free clothing for work, and other support. Find details on the [Johnson County KS low income center](#).

**Johnson County free holiday programs** - Low income families with children can apply for Christmas toys or clothing for their kids. Charities also serve meals during the holidays and can deliver food to the homebound. Assistance available in Overland Park and the county will allow all families to experience Christmas or Thanksgiving joy. More on [free holiday help in Johnson County Kansas](#).

### **Foreclosure prevention, mortgage and debt assistance**

**Housing Information Center** - The Olathe location may be able to offer various forms of housing counseling services that includes foreclosure prevention and mortgage default services. This is offered by staff from the HUD-approved housing counselors. They also give free advice and support to deal with landlord/tenant complaints and fair housing issues; pre-rental and pre-purchase counseling; eviction prevention; and budget/credit report review along with debt management. Call (913) 829-4584.

Anyone living on **SSI or SSDI disability** often struggles to buy a home. Or they can struggle to pay a mortgage and utility bills. There are HUD and state of Kansas resources that can help them, too. Grants, legal aid, and loans may be offered. Find various programs for [financial help for mortgages for disabled](#).

### **Food assistance of Johnson County Kansas**

**Roeland Park United Methodist Church** Roeland Park, Kansas (913-432-0235) "Fourth Friday Free Food" From 9 am to 11 am on the fourth Friday of each month, they give away a shopping bag full of non-perishable food to anyone who comes to the door.

**Center of Hope** Olathe, Kansas (913-764-1353) provides food to members of the community.

**First Christian Church of Olathe** Olathe, KS (913-764-3555)

**Southwoods Christian Church** Overland Park, Kansas (913-681-5100) is a local food pantry that also partners with the national Angel Food Ministries organization.

Low income families can turn to **other food banks and soup kitchens**. Non-profits can offer support and direct assistance. Case workers also help with Meals on Wheels, as well as SNAP food stamp applications. Or find additional [free food pantries in Johnson County](#) and Olathe Kansas.