

HOUSING TOOLKIT

Navigating Online Housing Resources & Housing Search



Refugee Housing
SOLUTIONS

Finding the appropriate housing requires having the right tools.

The internet is a tool that can improve and expand one's housing search. This document provides federal, state, and housing providers, search engines, and other sources. It also provides property managers and landlords with accessible avenues to advertise their properties.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Locating affordable housing is the most challenging part of the resettlement process. HUD provides housing practitioners with valuable information to demystify what entities receiving HUD funding are available to help find housing and assistance for refugees and newcomers.

- **Operation Allies Welcome (OAW)**
 - [Operation Allies Welcome](#) is an effort by the Biden Administration to secure housing and employment for 70,000 vulnerable Afghan refugees resettling in the United States. Learn more about Operation Allies Welcome and what affordable housing programs funding by HUD are available to support this resettlement effort.
- **Finding Your Local Public Housing Agency (PHA)**
 - If you need public housing assistance or want specific information about public housing programs such as housing choice vouchers, [this link](#) will connect you to your local public housing agency.
- **Housing Counseling Program**
 - HUD's Housing Counseling Program assists individuals and families in searching for, obtaining, and maintaining a home -- whether it's rented or owned. To find a HUD-approved housing counseling agency in your local area, call (800) 569-4287 or use the [online search tool](#).

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USA.gov

Learn about government programs that help low-income individuals [find affordable rental housing](#). Each program -- subsidized housing, public housing, and housing choice vouchers -- is different. Explore the details on how they work, who is eligible, and how to apply.

National Council of State Housing Agencies (NCSHA)

- **Utilizing Your State Agency**
 - Do you know that your state housing agency offers free online resources and search engines for renters and affordable housing providers? These services make searching for affordable housing accessible for those with different budgets and accommodation needs. [This link](#) will help you find your state housing agency to connect to your state's resources and affordable housing programs.

AffordableHousing.com

[AffordableHousing.com](#) (formerly GoSection8.com) is the largest search engine for finding affordable housing properties. This free search engine allows renters to find affordable properties in their area, submit applications, and get on waiting lists. It also provides landlords and property managers with free services to list their properties, set up waiting lists, and receive prospective matches.

Socialserve

[Socialserve](#) is a nonprofit, bilingual [call center](#) that connects people to housing and provides support. They provide professional housing locations and assist displaced households in finding new housing. They also offer waiting list support and gather housing data for regions and municipalities across the United States.