

Dear Governor Reynolds:

The best time to act is always now.

The CDC's extension of the eviction moratorium is working its way through the courts and may be struck down as soon as the end of next week.

We write to you in our capacity as homeless service providers: we are the Coordinated Entry agencies in Iowa. Our programs are located throughout Iowa, and we are charged with holding waiting lists for housing programs for people who are currently experiencing homelessness. Across the state of Iowa, there are 1,620 households, kids and adults, who are literally homeless and on lengthy waiting lists for housing programs.

There are never enough program openings to fill the need. This is our job: to triage and prioritize people who all need housing support for the few openings that come available in each region. The state depends on us to provide these services to our citizens.

The homeless crisis response systems across the state of Iowa simply do not have the capacity to absorb the number of people who will be affected by the end of the CDC's eviction moratorium. The federal government is looking to states and municipalities to handle this crisis, and we call on you to act for your state. Be a leader in this fight to keep people safely and stably housed in a time of crisis and uncertainty. Tell Iowans their safety matters and that housing is a necessity. Establish an eviction moratorium for the state of Iowa.

Sincerely,

Bernadette Beck, Centralized Intake Program Manager, Primary Health Care/Polk County
Continuum of Care

Jessica Bleile, Associate Director, Iowa Balance of State Continuum of Care Associate Director

Cassandra Kramer, Coordinated Entry Specialist, Institute for Community Alliances

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