



## **Demands to Protect Our Families, Neighbors, and Communities in the COVID-19 Crisis**

**1. Demand Governor Cuomo Cancel Rent:** With our partners in the Upstate/Downstate Housing Alliance, MHAction leaders are demanding that Governor Cuomo and state legislative leaders suspend rent, mortgage, and utility payments; implement a full moratorium on evictions/foreclosures; and invest in permanent housing for New Yorkers experiencing homelessness.

**Sign [this petition](#) to Governor Cuomo and our New York legislators!**

**2. Stop Corporate Owner Abuses:** Predatory community owners are continuing their unconscionable practices in the middle of this epidemic and in violation of eviction moratoriums. In Iowa, Impact Communities (formerly RV Horizons) posted eviction notices on residents' doors this week. MHAction leaders across the country are demanding that Impact cancel rent and negotiate with residents and non-profits to sell the communities.

**Click [this petition](#) to Impact Communities!**

**3. Share Your Story:** The stories of our struggles and dreams are the heart of MHAction's campaigns. MHAction leaders are sharing their stories of how the COVID-19 crisis, on top of the abusive actions of corporate community owners, is impacting our families and communities.

**Share your story [here](#)!**

**4. Call For Tenant Protections in Federally-Backed Communities:** Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, loan companies backed by the federal government, are financing predatory corporate owners, and their federal government regulator, the Federal Housing Finance Agency, is letting them get away with it. While there is an eviction moratorium in place during COVID-19 for communities with Fannie and Freddie-backed loans, renters and homeowners have no way of know if they are covered. FHFA must do more to protect residents in this crisis!

**Call and email the Federal Housing Finance Agency Director, Dr. Mark Calabria, and demand that the FHFA protect tenants!** Call Dr. Calabria at (202) 649-3800, extension 2, and use the call script below to leave a message with the answering service. Email Dr. Calabria at [director@fhfa.gov](mailto:director@fhfa.gov) and share your story and the demands in the call script.

My name is [NAME] from [LOCATION]. I'm calling because I believe all families deserve an affordable home in a healthy community. We need Fannie and Freddie to publicly share the properties with Fannie and Freddie-backed loans so tenants know if they're covered by the federal eviction moratorium. We also need all future multi-family loans to include requirements to stop rent gouging and mistreatment of tenants and ensure decent and safe maintenance. And we need Fannie and Freddie to stop lending to predatory corporate community owners that are making big profits off the backs of low-income renters and mobile homeowners.



## Income Support Resources

### Unemployment Benefits

- U.S. Department of Labor: <https://www.dol.gov/>
- New York State Department of Labor: <https://www.labor.ny.gov/home/>
- Unemployment benefit calculator: <https://labor.ny.gov/benefit-rate-calculator/>
- **To apply for unemployment:** <https://applications.labor.ny.gov/IndividualReg/>

### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (sometimes referred to as food stamps)

- New York State Office of Temporary Disability Assistance: <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/>
- SNAP Benefits Calculator: [https://bplc.cssny.org/benefit\\_tools/snap\\_calculator](https://bplc.cssny.org/benefit_tools/snap_calculator)
- **To apply for SNAP/food stamps:**  
<https://www.mybenefits.ny.gov/mybenefits/NewAccountCreation!input.nysmybw>

### Other Assistance Programs

- To explore your eligibility for other assistance programs:  
[https://www.mybenefits.ny.gov/screening/ScreeningWelcome\\_input.nysmybw](https://www.mybenefits.ny.gov/screening/ScreeningWelcome_input.nysmybw)

### For Help Applying For These Programs

- Call your County Social Services Office: <https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/localdss.asp>
- Call your local legal services organization
  - Nassau County – Call Nassau/Suffolk Law Services at (516) 292-8100
  - Suffolk County – Call Nassau/Suffolk Law Services at (631) 232-2400
  - Westchester, Dutchess, Ulster, Orange, Sullivan, and Rockland Counties – Call Legal Services of the Hudson Valley at 1-877-574-8529
  - Erie County – For assistance with SNAP benefits, call Neighborhood Legal Services at 716-847-0650 and for assistance with Unemployment, call Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo at 716-217-0374 (available Tues & Fri 9am-4pm)
- New York State is also launching a pro bono assistance network. More information will be posted here: <https://nysba.org/covidvolunteer>