

A Public meeting shall be held by the Henry County Board of Supervisors at which time a public hearing shall be held and action taken regarding An Ordinance to Amend an Ordinance Prescribing the General Relief Program of Henry County, Iowa, Adopted July 6, 2004. Said Ordinance was published in its entirety on July 8, 2010 in all three newspapers in Henry County Iowa. Public meetings were held and public comment lead to the revision of the proposed ordinance. Revised pages of the ordinance are being published. The pages from the ordinance published July 8, 2010 are labeled "Page from the ordinance published July 8, 2010". The pages with revisions are labeled "Proposed revision of the ordinance published July 8, 2010" and the revision has been bolded.

A meeting shall be held by the Henry County Board of Supervisors on the 5th day of October 2010 commencing at (10:00 AM) in the Board of Supervisor's Office on the first floor at the Henry County Courthouse, Mt Pleasant, Iowa, at which time a public hearing shall be held and action taken concerning whether to adopt the proposed ordinance. The second reading shall take place on October 7, 2010 at (10:00 AM) and the third and final reading shall take place on October 12, 2010 at (10:00 AM).

The Henry County Auditor shall provide copies of the proposed ordinance to interested parties. Any objections to this proposed ordinance may be made via telephone or by written submission to the Auditor or may be made at the hearing so the Board of Supervisors may consider these objections in their decision.

/s/ Hettie Maschmann
Henry County Auditor

SECTION 1-DEFINITIONS

<p>County General Assistance</p>	<p>Chapter 252.25 Code of Iowa defines as: The board of supervisors of each county shall provide for the assistance of poor persons lawfully in the county who are ineligible for, or are in immediate need and are awaiting approval and receipt of, assistance under programs provided by state or federal law, or whose actual needs cannot be fully met by the assistance furnished under those programs. The county board of supervisors shall establish general rules as the board's members deem necessary to properly discharge their responsibility under this section.</p>
<p>Assistance</p>	<p>means rent, utilities, dental treatment to relieve pain, prescription medication and medical supplies.</p>
<p>Household</p>	<p>means the individual applying and all persons, related or unrelated, who live in a residence with a shared common toilet, kitchen, dining or bedroom facilities or a shared rental payment or lease.</p>
<p>Awaiting Approval and Receipt</p>	<p>means that a poor person has applied for assistance under any state or federal law, has pursued that application with due diligence, and has not had such application denied. This does not include an appeal of a denial of benefits. It does include a person who has an application denied and who reapplies after eighteen (18) consecutive months have expired from the date of denial.</p>
<p>Director</p>	<p>means the Director of the General Assistance Program for Henry County or their designee.</p>
<p>Emancipated Minor</p>	<p>as defined in Iowa Code sections 225C.45(2) and 252.16(4), an emancipated minor is a person under eighteen years of age, who has assumed a new relationship inconsistent with being part of the family of a person's parents, who is married or who is living separate and apart from the person's parent with the consent of the parents regardless of the duration of the separate residence, who is self-supporting, and who is managing the person's own financial affairs regardless of the source or extent of the person's income.</p>

SECTION 1-DEFINITIONS

County General Assistance	Chapter 252.25 Code of Iowa defines as: The board of supervisors of each county shall provide for the assistance of poor persons lawfully in the county who are ineligible for, or are in immediate need and are awaiting approval and receipt of, assistance under programs provided by state or federal law, or whose actual needs cannot be fully met by the assistance furnished under those programs. The county board of supervisors shall establish general rules as the board's members deem necessary to properly discharge their responsibility under this section.
Assistance	means rent, utilities, dental treatment to relieve pain, prescription medication and medical supplies.
Household	means the individual applying and all persons, related or unrelated, who live in a residence with a shared common toilet, kitchen, dining or bedroom facilities or a shared rental payment or lease.
Awaiting Approval and Receipt	means that a poor person has applied for assistance under any state or federal law, has pursued that application with due diligence, and has not had such application denied. This does not include an appeal of a denial of benefits. It does include a person who has an application denied and who reapplies after eighteen (18) consecutive months have expired from the date of denial.
Director	means the Director of the General Assistance Program for Henry County or their designee.
Emancipated Minor	as defined in Iowa Code sections 225C.45(2) and 252.16(4), an emancipated minor is a person under eighteen years of age, who has assumed a new relationship inconsistent with being part of the family of a person's parents, who is married or who is living separate and apart from the person's parent with the consent of the parents regardless of the duration of the separate residence, who is self-supporting, and who is managing the person's own financial affairs regardless of the source or extent of the person's income.
Basic Needs	means food, clothing, and shelter.

- b. are 18 years old or are an emancipated minor at the time application for assistance is made;
- c. have monthly income of less than 150% of the level for determination of eligibility for Family Investment Program (FIP);
- d. have non-exempt resources of less than \$200.00 as established by the Henry County Board of Supervisors;
- e. have made application for, complied with all requirements of and be awaiting approval and receipt of all other assistance programs for which the applicant may be eligible (food assistance, FIP, SSI, Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, unemployment, child support, ADC, TANF, Section 8 Housing, LIHEAP, food pantries, Vocational Rehabilitation, Workmans's Compensation etc.). A referral sheet shall be provided to the applicant if they appear eligible for the previously noted programs. It is the obligation of the applicant to immediately make application to that source, and pursue such applications with diligence as a condition to be eligible for assistance under this ordinance. Failure to apply for and pursue said application shall result in a denial of assistance; and
- f. failure to follow through with state and/or federal programs which results in a denial, reduction or termination of benefits shall result in a denial of general assistance. Denial shall be for the same period of time the state and/or federal program is denied, reduced or terminated; and

- b. are 18 years old or are an emancipated minor at the time application for assistance is made;
- c. have monthly income of less than 150% of the level for determination of eligibility for Family Investment Program (FIP);
- d. have non-exempt resources of less than **\$400.00** as established by the Henry County Board of Supervisors;
- e. have made application for, complied with all requirements of and be awaiting approval and receipt of all other assistance programs for which the applicant may be eligible (food assistance, FIP, SSI, Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, unemployment, child support, ADC, TANF, Section 8 Housing, LIHEAP, food pantries, Vocational Rehabilitation, Workmans's Compensation etc.). A referral sheet shall be provided to the applicant if they appear eligible for the previously noted programs. It is the obligation of the applicant to immediately make application to that source, and pursue such applications with diligence as a condition to be eligible for assistance under this ordinance. Failure to apply for and pursue said application shall result in a denial of assistance; and
- f. failure to follow through with state and/or federal programs which results in a denial, reduction or termination of benefits shall result in a denial of general assistance. Denial shall be for the same period of time the state and/or federal program is denied, reduced or terminated; and

- d. when the value of one or more exempted resources exceeds the specified amount, the excess must be counted as available resources; and
- e. all resources, other than excluded above, shall be considered as available to meet basic needs and must be used for such; and
- f. if resources are available to meet the request at the general assistance standard, no eligibility exists; and
- g. if resources are available to partially meet the need, they must be utilized prior to eligibility for assistance; and
- h. if an applicant has sold, traded, or transferred any personal or real property within six (6) months prior to their application for assistance at less than fair market value, the applicant will be ineligible for General Assistance for twelve (12) months from the date of transaction.

SECTION 5-INELIGIBILITY

General Assistance shall be denied or discontinued under the following circumstances:

- If Applicant qualifies for programs that provide income from other sources to meet the Applicant's needs and Applicant refuses or declines to apply for or otherwise utilize those programs.
- Households who are currently receiving cash assistance from local (private charitable organizations), state or federal programs are not eligible for county General Assistance.
- Applicant's income and/ or resources exceed the financial guidelines for assistance.
- The applicant refuses to use available resources to pay for their basic needs.
- Applicant fails to appeal, as allowed, a denial of benefits under other programs.
- Persons who are discharged from the FIP Program due to meeting the sixty (60) month maximum are ineligible for General Assistance. The Federal Government Welfare Reform Act of 1996 created an expectation that a person receiving welfare would work with their DHS worker to become self-sufficient within five years. Henry County policies will not conflict with the Federal Government.
- Applicant has failed to complete Promise Jobs.

- d. when the value of one or more exempted resources exceeds **\$400.00**, the excess must be counted as available resources; and
- e. all **excess** resources, other than excluded above, shall be considered as available to meet basic needs and must be used for such; and
- f. if **excess** resources are available to meet the request at the general assistance standard, no eligibility exists; and
- g. if **excess** resources are available to partially meet the need, they must be utilized prior to eligibility for assistance; and
- h. if an applicant has sold, traded, or transferred any personal or real property within six (6) months prior to their application for assistance at less than fair market value, the applicant will be ineligible for General Assistance for twelve (12) months from the date of transaction.

SECTION 5-INELIGIBILITY

General Assistance shall be denied or discontinued under the following circumstances:

- If Applicant qualifies for programs that provide income from other sources to meet the Applicant's needs and Applicant refuses or declines to apply for or otherwise utilize those programs.
- Households who are currently receiving **ongoing** cash assistance from local (private charitable organizations), state or federal programs are not eligible for county General Assistance.
- Applicant's income and/ or resources exceed the financial guidelines for assistance.
- The applicant refuses to use available resources to pay for their basic needs.
- Applicant fails to appeal, as allowed, a denial of benefits under other programs.
- Persons who are discharged from the FIP Program due to meeting the sixty (60) month maximum are ineligible for General Assistance. The Federal Government Welfare Reform Act of 1996 created an expectation that a person receiving welfare would work with their DHS worker to become self-sufficient within five years. Henry County policies will not conflict with the Federal Government.
- ~~Applicant has failed to complete Promise Jobs.~~

c. When two or more unrelated individuals are residing at the same address and share expenses equally, each person must apply for general assistance. The amount of rent or utilities to be approved shall be determined by dividing the actual amount, up to the maximum of \$200.00 per month, by the number of individuals residing in the dwelling.

d. In situations of shared living arrangements where it is determined that separate households are sharing the same dwelling, the amount of rent or utilities to be approved shall be determined by dividing the actual amount, up to the maximum of \$200.00 per month, by the number of households residing in the dwelling. Each household must apply for general assistance for their portion.

10

c. When two or more unrelated individuals are residing at the same address and share expenses equally, each person must apply for general assistance. The amount of rent or utilities to be approved shall be determined by dividing the actual amount, up to the maximum of **\$400.00 per month on rent and \$200.00** on utilities, by the number of individuals residing in the dwelling.

d. In situations of shared living arrangements where it is determined that separate households are sharing the same dwelling, the amount of rent or utilities to be approved shall be determined by dividing the actual amount, up to the maximum of **\$400.00 per month on rent and \$200.00 on utilities**, by the number of households residing in the dwelling. Each household must apply for general assistance for their portion.

10

2. Rent:

- a. payment for actual rent for housing that is currently being occupied in Henry County by the applicant, up to a maximum of \$200.00 per month; and
- b. no payment will be made for deposits or first month rent. If the applicant is residing in a residential motel verification of payment of first month rent will be required; and
- c. a copy of the lease agreement with the applicants or member of the household name on the lease shall be required; or
- d. a written statement from the landlord stating they are the property owner or owner designee, the applicant rents from them, the amount of current rent, verification first month rent has been paid may be required if the applicant has lived at the property less than sixty (60) days and signature of the landlord with their mailing address. A federal tax identification number is required for Henry County to issue a vendor payment; and
- e. rental payments will only be made to the owners of the rented property or their designee. Payments will not be made to relatives of the applicant, sub-renters or member of the applicants household. House payments will not be paid as it creates an estate; and
- f. there shall be a sixty (60) day limitation from the date of approval for rental assistance under this ordinance, assistance shall be issued no more than twice in the sixty (60) day period; and

2. Rent:

- a. payment for actual rent for housing that is currently being occupied in Henry County by the applicant, up to a maximum of **\$400.00** per month; and
- b. no payment will be made for deposits or first month rent. If the applicant is residing in a residential motel verification of payment of first month rent will be required; and
- c. a copy of the lease agreement with the applicants or member of the household name on the lease shall be required; or
- d. a written statement from the landlord stating they are the property owner or owner designee, the applicant rents from them, the amount of current rent, verification first month rent has been paid may be required if the applicant has lived at the property less than sixty (60) days and signature of the landlord with their mailing address. A federal tax identification number is required for Henry County to issue a vendor payment; and
- e. rental payments will only be made to the owners of the rented property or their designee. Payments will not be made to relatives of the applicant, sub-renters or member of the applicants household. House payments will not be paid as it creates an estate; and

f. rent payments are limited to two (2) consecutive months in a twelve (12) month period, (example: an applicant received rent assistance in February and March of any given year they are not eligible to apply for rent assistance until February of the next year).

11

Page from the ordinance published July 8, 2010

d. there shall be a sixty(60) day limitation from the date of approval for utility assistance under this ordinance, assistance shall be issued no more than twice during the sixty (60) day period; and

12

Proposed revision of the ordinance published July 8, 2010

d. utility payments are limited to two (2) consecutive months in a twelve (12) month period, (example: an applicant received utility assistance in February and March of any given year they are not eligible to apply for utility assistance until February of the next year).

12