

Emergency Rental Assistance Resources for Summerville, South Carolina

Prepared April 17, 2026 • Focused on organizations in Summerville or programs that serve Summerville / Dorchester County residents

This list is meant to help you move quickly. Availability can change fast, and many programs require screening, appointments, proof of income, ID, a lease, and/or an eviction notice. Call ahead first.

Organization	What they may help with	Contact / location	Notes
Palmetto Community Action Partnership (Palmetto CAP)	General Emergency Assistance Program includes rental assistance to avoid eviction.	Main contact: (843) 724-6760 Dorchester location: 500 N Main St, Summerville, SC 29483 Appointments / hotline: 1-844-769-6448	Serves Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester counties. Appointments are limited and first-come, first-served.
HELP of Summerville	Emergency help with rent, utilities, clothing, food, medicine, and other basic needs.	Resource Connection: (843) 566-7040 P.O. Box 1871, Summerville, SC 29484	Local Summerville resource. Current intake appears to route through Resource Connection.
Trident United Way – Dorchester Center for Strong Families	Connects residents to rental assistance, housing support, utility help, employment resources, and other stabilization services.	133 East 1st North St, Suite 3, Summerville, SC 29483 (843) 566-7040	Good starting point if you are not sure which program you qualify for. Appointment recommended.
Humanities Foundation – ShelterNet	Emergency financial relief for past-due rent or utility bills to prevent loss of housing.	Apply through a ShelterNet referral organization listed by Humanities Foundation	Program works in Charleston, Berkeley, and Dorchester counties. Help is typically through partner referral agencies rather than direct walk-in intake.
The Salvation Army	Emergency financial assistance for rent and utilities to help prevent homelessness.	Charleston Corps: 2135 Ashley River Rd, Charleston, SC 29407 (843) 747-5271 Dorchester service unit listing: 111 Waring St, Summerville, SC 29483 (843) 747-5271	Requirements vary by location. Call and ask for social services / emergency financial assistance.
Neighbors Together	Limited emergency help with rent and utilities on a case-by-case basis.	2105 Cosgrove Ave, North Charleston, SC 29405 (843) 747-1788	By appointment only. Applications reviewed Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Organization	What they may help with	Contact / location	Notes
St. Vincent de Paul – St. John the Beloved (Summerville)	Direct person-to-person assistance; may include emergency financial help depending on need and available funds.	Summerville helpline: (843) 607-9157	Church-based assistance. Call and explain that you need emergency rent help.

Fastest next steps

- 1) Call **(843) 566-7040** first. That reaches Trident United Way's Dorchester Resource Connection / Center for Strong Families intake in Summerville.
- 2) Also call **Palmetto CAP** at **1-844-769-6448** or **(843) 724-6760** and ask specifically about emergency rent help to avoid eviction.
- 3) If you need same-week help, try **HELP of Summerville**, **The Salvation Army**, and **Neighbors Together** the same day.
- 4) Have ready: photo ID, lease, proof of income, late notice / eviction notice, and landlord contact information.

Source notes

- Palmetto CAP states that its General Emergency Assistance Program provides financial assistance for households facing unexpected hardship, including rental assistance to avoid eviction, and lists a new Dorchester location at 500 N Main St, Summerville, plus contact numbers.
- HELP of Summerville's current website directs people seeking assistance to Resource Connection at (843) 566-7040; other Summerville references describe HELP as providing emergency help with rent and utilities in Dorchester County.
- Trident United Way's Dorchester Center for Strong Families says it connects Tri-County residents to resources including rental assistance and lists its Summerville address and phone number.
- Humanities Foundation says ShelterNet provides emergency financial relief for past-due rent or utility bills and serves Charleston, Berkeley, and Dorchester counties through referral organizations.
- The Salvation Army's Charleston emergency financial assistance page says it provides emergency rent and utility help to prevent homelessness; its service listings show a Summerville-related Dorchester service unit and Charleston Corps contact.
- Neighbors Together says it offers limited rental and utility assistance by appointment only and lists the North Charleston office and phone number.
- St. John the Beloved's St. Vincent de Paul page in Summerville lists a local assistance phone number and describes direct aid to people in need.