

2020 Housing Assistance Opportunity - City of Creston

The City of Creston is exploring two housing programs this spring. These programs will offer grants to fix up houses in Creston. The City is considering applying for grant funds for two programs, which are described below.

Architectural Barriers Program – This program provides forgivable loans (0-interest loans that convert to grants after five years of occupancy) to homeowners who have modest incomes and need to make modifications to your home in order to continue to live comfortably in the home. These improvements include things like wheelchair ramps, bathroom and kitchen modifications, widened hallways and doorways, and other things to make it more accessible for people of all physical abilities. To apply for this program, at least one person in the household must be age 60+ and/or severely disabled, as federally defined.

Severely disabled: An adult person who: (a) used a wheelchair or had used another special aid for 6 months or longer; (b) were unable to perform one or more functional activities or needed assistance with an Activity of Daily Living or Instrumental Activity of Daily Living. Functional activities include seeing, hearing, having one's speech understood, lifting and carrying, walking up a flight of stairs, and walking. Activities of daily living include getting around inside the house, getting in and out of bed or a chair, bathing, dressing, eating, and toileting. Instrumental Activities of Daily Living include going outside the home, keeping track of money or bills, preparing meals, doing light housework, and using the telephone.” (c) were prevented from working at a job or doing housework; or (d) had a condition including autism, cerebral palsy, Alzheimer's disease, senility, or dementia. (e) persons who are under 65 years of age and who are covered by Medicare or receive SSI are considered to have a severe disability.

Exterior Improvements Program – This program provides forgivable loans to homeowners who have modest incomes and need to fix up the outside of their homes. Work might include new siding, windows, doors, roof, foundation, etc. There is no age or other restrictions on these applicants.

There is no cost to apply and the program may only cost you about \$17 to participate in the program if the grant is awarded. Up to about \$30,000 in repairs are possible from the grant. Any homeowner in Creston can apply for only ONE of the programs. We are gauging interest in these two programs. Therefore, please indicate your 1st and 2nd choices below. Please circle “*Not Eligible*” for the Architectural Barriers Program if you do not meet the age or disability requirements.

Architectural Barriers Program: **1st Choice** **2nd Choice** **Not Eligible**

Exterior Improvements Program: **1st Choice** **2nd Choice**

Please also answer the following questions honestly and as completely as possible.

Name of householder: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Number of people living in the home: _____ Estimated income for 2020: \$ _____

Age of oldest person in the home: _____ Is anyone in the home severely disabled? _____

Estimated value of the home: \$ _____ How long have you owned this home? _____

What is your living arrangement? (check one)

_____ own/paid off _____ own/bank mortgage _____ own/on contract _____ rent

Items most in need of repair in your home: _____

Please return this survey in person/by mail to SICOG’s office at 101 E. Montgomery Street in Creston, by email at rounds@sicog.com, or by fax to 641-782-8492 by **May 15, 2020**. Alternatively, send to Lisa Williamson at city hall, 116 W. Adams Street, Creston, Iowa 50801 by the same date. Contact Jeremy Rounds, SICOG, by phone at 641.782.8491 or by email above with questions.