

Volume 06 | Q1 2021



## Senior Rainbow Assistance Program News & Updates

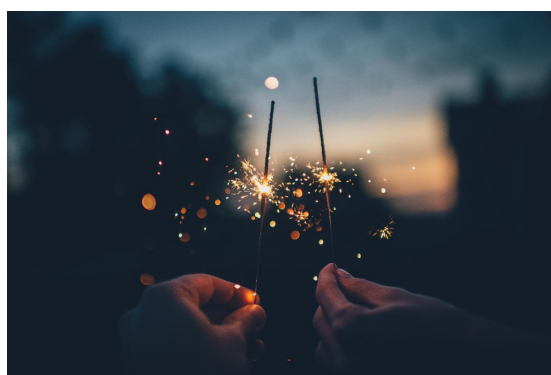


Photo by [Ian Schneider](#) on [Unsplash](#)

### 2020 Recap and Results

With 2021 in full swing, we are starting off the year with a very exciting new addition to our program. But first, I would like to take a moment to reflect on 2020. It's hard for us to believe but we only launched our Basic Necessities Program nearly 1 year ago. As we were preparing for our launch last year, the world learned of COVID-19 and we believed that we should extend our service to also help those affected in the LGBTQ community.

In the last year, we have processed **20 applications** and provided 13 individuals with the assistance they needed during these difficult times. **Our average applicant age was 63 years old. Five people who applied, listed COVID-19 as the main reason they were seeking assistance.** Overall the applications were fairly evenly split between grocery or utility assistance

We also wanted to take a moment to share some of the comments that we have received from a few our applicants about Senior Rainbow.

"I am so very grateful that Senior Rainbow was available to me to help with my bills. My being furloughed from my company after working for them for 48-years was a great shock to me and very emotional since I always had a job and a paycheck. Your organization made it not hurt so bad!" - **Barbara L, Chicago May 2020**

"The \$250 will go along way to help me. Please know that you and The Senior Rainbow Assistance Program are appreciated! Really appreciated!!!" - **Thomas L, Chicago, October 2020**

We were also able to raise over **\$13,000** in 2020, from individual donors and our first grant with the Chicago Foundation for Women. One very generous donation we received was from David from Oak Park in memory of his dear friend, Jerry.

We are very proud of what we have accomplished but are focused on continuing to grow our program to help more members of the LGBTQ community here in Illinois.



### Housing Assistance Expansion

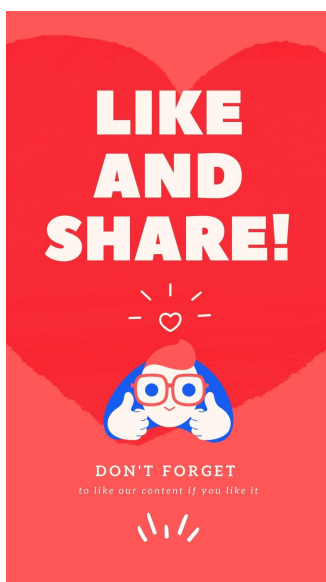
We are excited to announce that we will be able to expand our Basic Necessities Program to include Housing Assistance. People will be able to request assistance of \$500 per application to help pay for their mortgage or rental payments. The Basic Necessities Program will now have a lifetime assistance limit of \$1500 which is increased from \$500.

LGBTQ community members will have the ability to select between grocery, utility or housing each time they apply. This program expansion allows those who may have changing needs to be able to get the assistance they truly need at the time when they truly need it.

Full details of the expanded Basic Necessities Program and the updated application can be found on our website on our [Services](#) page.

We hope you can continue to help support our LGBTQ seniors and those affected by COVID-19 in 2021. If you would like to donate, please use the Donate button below.

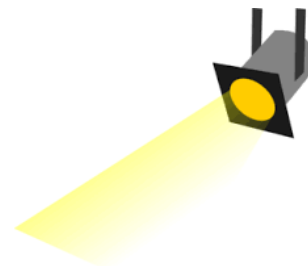
Donate Today!



### Like and Share

By liking and sharing you invite those who are in need to get to know us. You give us the chance to stay connected and get to know our community and fulfill others needs. Also by sharing our content you make us easily accessible to those who may have questions and we would be able to engage in important conversation.

### Spotlight: 2020 Charitable Donations



The CARES ACT made changes in how charitable contributions can be deducted by individuals in 2020. You may be eligible to deduct up to \$300 in 2020 without itemizing. Please see the following article from the IRS on the [deductions](#).

If you donated to Senior Rainbow Assistance Program in 2020, you should have already received your donation letter. If you didn't receive your letter, please contact us at [info@seniorrainbow.org](mailto:info@seniorrainbow.org)

Senior Rainbow Assistance Program | 3005 N. Kilbourn Ave, Chicago, IL 60641

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