

Violence Against Women Act

Your Rights as a Tenant

The Violence Against Women Act of 2013 (VAWA) provides special protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who are applying for, or are already receiving assistance, under the Housing Choice Voucher Program. Protections are not limited to women, but cover victims regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

Applicant and Participant Rights Under VAWA—HUD-5380, Notice of Occupancy Rights Under VAWA explains the rights this federal law gives Housing Choice Voucher applicants and participants who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Certification for Those Seeking VAWA Protection—HUD-5382, Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking and Alternate Documentation, is a form that either the victim or someone on behalf of the victim can complete for Carroll County Housing and Community Development.

Emergency Transfer Plan for Tenants—Carroll County Housing is concerned about the safety of our tenants. Under VAWA, tenants who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, may request an emergency transfer from the tenant's current unit to another unit. Carroll County Housing's Emergency Transfer Plan details who is eligible, documentation required, the confidentiality policy, emergency transfer timing and availability, and safety and security for the victim.

How to Request an Emergency Transfer—If you are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and you are seeking an emergency transfer from your rental unit, you may use Form HUD-5383, Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking. Either the victim or someone on behalf of the victim may submit this form to Carroll County Housing. Use of this form does not mean that an emergency transfer will be approved.

For more information contact Carroll County Housing and Community Development:

10 Distillery Drive, Suite 101
Westminster, Maryland 21157
410-386-3600

Carroll County's 24-hour Domestic Violence Hotline: 443-865-8031

The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978 or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 or email ada@carrollcountymd.gov as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.