



The Poor People's United Fund is a Boston-based organization that works to eliminate the causes of suffering due to poverty. PPUF advocates and educates in order to change the policies and perceptions that lead to that suffering.

# SURVIVAL TIPS

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Note: We have checked this information carefully and believe that it is correct at the time of writing in January 2013 and July 2017. However, things sometimes change. Agencies sometimes use up their money or change their policies. We will check the information again before we print another issue. These Survival Tips were originally compiled by Betty Reid Mandell. We are indebted to her great work and continue it in her spirit. If you have questions about this information, or if you have a useful survival tip, please contact us at [survivaltips@ppuf.org](mailto:survivaltips@ppuf.org).

Update: July 2017

## **A. FOOD**

### **1. Food Pantries in Boston**

See Appendix A.

### **2. Project Bread**

Project Bread can give you information about food stamps, tell you what food pantries and food kitchens are near you, and tell you food stamp outreach locations. They have translators in several languages. Call their Food Source Hotline, 1-800-645-8333; TTY: 1-800-377-1292. Their hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.; Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Their website is [www.projectbread.org](http://www.projectbread.org), and the address is 145 Border Street, East Boston MA 02128 or call 617-723-5000.

### **3. Food Stamps (SNAP)**

Everyone has the right to apply for Food Stamps (now called SNAP, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) at their local DTA office, on the Internet, by mailing in an application, or at other food stamp outreach locations. Call the DTA at 1-800-249-2007 or their website at: [www.mass.gov/dta](http://www.mass.gov/dta) for more information about food stamps or visit [webapps.ehs.state.ma.us/DTA/Offices/](http://webapps.ehs.state.ma.us/DTA/Offices/) to find your local DTA office. You can also call Project Bread's Food Source Hotline at 1-800-645-8333 for help finding food resources in your area or their website at [www.projectbread.org](http://www.projectbread.org). You have the right to sign a paper application the same day you go into a DTA local office or sign an online application electronically.

You can also apply online by going <http://www.mass.gov/snap> or [www.gettingsnap.org](http://www.gettingsnap.org) and clicking on the link for the SNAP application. Then, click on "Apply" for the online application, or you can print out a paper application off the DTA website. If you do not want to apply online or do not have access to the Internet, you can ask DTA (at the number above) to mail you a copy and you can mail or fax it back after you fill it out.

You can get expedited (fast) food stamps if you have little or no income and assets, or if your shelter costs are higher than your income and money in the bank. This means that you should receive the benefits on an EBT card within 7 days of when DTA receives a signed application and screens you for expedited benefits. It is sometimes best to go in person if you need food stamps fast. DTA will ask for proof of who you are (your identity) and will ask you about your income, money in the bank, and expenses, to see if you qualify. You do not need a photo ID or birth certificate. If you do not have any proof of identity but you know your SSN, DTA can check your identity through your SSN and date of birth.

If you are not eligible for expedited food stamps, you can still get food stamps within 30 days of when you apply, if you meet the eligibility rules. You will need to be interviewed—either over the phone or in person— and provide proofs of your income, your address, and your immigration status (if you are not a U.S. citizen). You can self-attest to your shelter costs and child care expenses by writing them on the paper application or giving your worker a signed sworn statement. You can provide proof of your address in many ways, such as with a bill, your lease, an I.D., or government letter. You should receive a letter in the mail after you apply that tells you when your

interview is scheduled. After your interview, you will also get a letter about the proofs you will need to send to your worker. Unless you need expedited food stamps, Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) does not count assets in deciding if you are eligible for benefits.

Be sure to tell DTA if you pay for childcare or before/after school fees, or if you pay for the care of a disabled adult so that you can work or go to school yourself. You can also claim the costs of travel (public transportation or a car) to and from childcare, after school programs, etc., at the federal mileage rate of 56.5 cents per mile. You can provide a sworn statement about your childcare costs. Claiming childcare expenses can increase your food stamps.

If anyone in your household is severely disabled or age 60 or older, they can also claim the cost of any out-of-pocket medical expenses to increase food stamps. Medical expenses that can be claimed include transportation to doctor appointments and pharmacies to pick up medication (at 56.5 cents per mile). It also includes Medicaid co-payments, Medicare premiums, over-the-counter health care supplies such as aspirin, hearing aid batteries, eyeglasses, skin ointments, incontinence supplies, or any other medical supplies recommended by a health provider. It can also include alternative therapy costs not covered by MassHealth or Medicare (chiropractic, acupuncture, massage therapy, herbal remedies). You can also claim and prove the cost for service animals. You will need to provide proofs of your medical expenses, and a list of medical facilities you visit to claim transportation. If an elder (60+) or disabled household member has more than \$35/month in medical related expenses, you will get a deduction on your income, which means you could increase your food stamp benefits. Claiming medical expenses can increase your food stamp benefits.

College students may also qualify for food stamps if they are low-income and meet any of the following: a) the student gets any amount of federal or state work study, b) works an average of 20 hours a week, c) has children under age 12 or gets TAFDC, d) is disabled, e) is over age 49 or under 18, f) is enrolled in school through an Employment and Training Program or the Division of Unemployment. In addition, any students enrolled in community college programs may also qualify for food stamps if they are enrolled in a career or technical education major or certificate program, or if the college thinks their course of study will lead to employment. DTA has a form for community colleges to sign to verify the course of study of these students. Students or other young adults under age 22 who live at home with parents must be part of the parent's SNAP benefits.

If you are denied food stamps or disagree with the amount of your benefits, you have the right to question and challenge any decisions made by DTA that you disagree with. There is information online about food stamps and about how to appeal a denial of benefits: [www.masslegalhelp.org](http://www.masslegalhelp.org) or call client services at 1-800-445-6604. You can also contact the Legal Services office in your area for advice and legal representation.

### **Things You Need To Know About Photo EBT Cards**

Massachusetts state law now requires that certain EBT cardholders be issued Photo EBT Cards with their picture. If you receive SNAP or cash benefits, you may get a letter from DTA about the new photo EBT card.

➤ **About half of SNAP households will have a photo EBT card.**

Under state law, households will get a photo-less EBT card when the head of household is: elderly/disabled, a victim of domestic violence, or for religious reasons.

If you get a DTA letter about the photo EBT card, but you meet one of the above categories, call your DTA worker. You should be exempt from having a photo on your EBT card, unless you want one.

➤ **Every SNAP household member has the right to use the EBT card.**

Stores cannot refuse to accept the EBT card from household members, such as spouses or older children. This is true even if their name or photo is not on the card. In addition, caregivers you authorize can also use your EBT card to food shop for you.

Just like a debit card, your PIN is what keeps your benefits safe and is your electronic signature. If the proper PIN is used, the shopper should be able to use the card.

➤ **Stores cannot treat SNAP recipients differently from other shoppers.**

A store clerk cannot ask to see your EBT photo card unless they routinely ask everyone using credit or debit cards to show a photo ID. Also, stores that accept EBT cards cannot set up “SNAP-only” checkout lines or discriminate against SNAP households.

Federal rules protect the right of all authorized members to use the EBT card and to not be discriminated against.

For more information, contact Vicky Negus, SNAP Advocate, Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, 617-357-0700 x 318 and her email is [vnegus@mlri.org](mailto:vnegus@mlri.org).

**If a household member is not allowed to use the EBT card, or if you are being hassled or treated differently from other shoppers, call your local Legal Services office. Go to [www.masslegalhelp.org](http://www.masslegalhelp.org) for more information.**

#### **4. Fair Foods**

Fair Foods transports daily truckloads of grocery-quality fresh surplus food from industry to low-income communities in Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. Bring your own bags for the food, which includes fruits and vegetables, to their Two-Dollar-A-Bag site. They do not require identification or income verification. They provide food to anyone who needs it, because there is more than enough to go around. Beyond keeping people from going hungry, Fair Foods provides the building blocks of a healthy life: fresh, affordable fruits and vegetables fifty-two weeks per year. Their headquarters in the Boston area is in Dorchester, Contact Ms. Nancy Jamison at 617-288-6185 ([see locations in Appendix B of this document](#)). Their website is [www.fairfoods.org](http://www.fairfoods.org), which lists location in the Boston area.

In addition to the sites listed on their website, there is a site called A-MARKET at 111 Seaver Street and Blue Hill Avenue in Roxbury. They are open every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Fair Shoes is a program to educate diabetics on the importance of healthy eating and activity that helps diabetics on Medicare who qualify to get a free pair of therapeutic shoes and three pairs of

custom-made insoles every year. The program is sponsored by Fair Foods. If you think you, a friend or family member may qualify, please call 617-288-6185 or 617-824-0748.

## **5. Community Servings**

Community Servings is a not-for-profit food and nutrition program providing services throughout Massachusetts to individuals and families living with critical and chronic illnesses. They give their clients, their dependent families, and caregivers appealing, nutritious meals, and send the message to those in greatest need that someone cares. Their goals are to help their clients maintain their health and dignity and preserve the integrity of their families through free, culturally appropriate, home-delivered meals, nutrition education, and other community programs. Call 617-522-7777; fax: 617-522-7770 or the website at [www.servings.org](http://www.servings.org). Their address is 18 Marbury Terrace, Jamaica Plain 02130 to request an intake packet.

## **B. HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS**

### **1. Help with housing problems**

ABCD-Housing Court Advocacy Program is for people going through eviction or housing court. Their Housing Court Advocacy (HCA) program is part of the Housing and Homelessness Prevention Department's array of homelessness prevention and stabilization programs. This program helps low and moderate income households living in Boston prevent eviction, maintain their tenancy, and understand their tenant's rights and responsibilities. Their number is 617-348-6347. Their website is [www.bostonabcd.org/housing](http://www.bostonabcd.org/housing).

The HCA program staff advocate for tenants before and during court proceedings to help maintain their tenancy by:

Educating clients on their rights and responsibilities. Ensuring clients' rights are observed in the courtroom. Supporting clients during mediation with a landlord or property manager. Providing clients with external resources to help maintain their tenancy

When a tenant receives a 14- or 30-day Notice to Quit or is summoned to appear in the Boston Housing Court, Housing Court Advocates may assist the tenant during recertification, eviction, and grievance panel hearings. On an individual basis, HCA staff support clients before and during the court process and seek legal assistance when necessary.

### **2. If you face housing discrimination**

Fair Housing Center of Greater Boston is the only comprehensive fair housing organization working to eliminate housing discrimination and promote open communities throughout the region. The FHCGB pursues its mission in Suffolk, Norfolk, Middlesex, Essex and Plymouth counties through offering a full tool kit of fair housing services: Housing Counseling, Testing, Case Advocacy, Training, Community Outreach, Policy Advocacy, and Research. Funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, foundation and corporate donors, and individual supporters, the FHCGB works to break the silence surrounding housing discrimination, to offer recourse to people harmed by discrimination, and educate and inform housing professionals and residents of their rights and responsibilities.



They are located at 100 Terrace Street, Suite B, Boston, MA 02120. Phone: 617-427-9740. Email: [info@bostonfairhousing.org](mailto:info@bostonfairhousing.org); Website: [www.bostonfairhousing.org](http://www.bostonfairhousing.org).

➔ **If you are experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk . . .**

### **3. The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)**

DHCD in Massachusetts offers services and money to families experiencing homelessness at their Division of Housing Stabilization offices, located at DTA offices. They assess your situation and try to help you work out a plan to avoid or exit homelessness. If you are a pregnant woman or family with children under the age of 21 and need shelter, a worker will help you. If you are an unaccompanied adult, you can apply for a shelter bed directly through a shelter provider. An online list of adult shelter providers can be found online at <http://www.mahomeless.org/index.php/adults>.

### **4. HomeBASE “Household Assistance”**

Household Assistance is part of the HomeBASE program for homeless families with children and pregnant women who have no place to stay. To get Household Assistance, you need to apply for and be otherwise eligible for Emergency Assistance (EA) shelter. Household Assistance is up to \$4,000 a year. The money is to help your family move into or keep short-term housing. The \$4,000 can pay expenses for you to move somewhere else, to help you stay with someone you know, or to help you stay where you are now. DHCD will make these payments to a landlord, utility company, or moving company or in the form of payments to your host — not to you.

**Household Assistance may not be the right answer for your family. You can still get Emergency Assistance (EA) shelter if you need it and your family meets the current eligibility standards for the EA program.**

If you go into a shelter, you will get help to look for housing you can afford for a longer stay. You may be able to get HomeBASE rental assistance later to help you exit shelter.

Are you sure \$4,000 is enough money to keep your family in housing for one full year? If the whole \$4,000 is spent before the end of 12 months and you end up homeless again, you will not be able to get any more help from HomeBASE for the rest of the 12-month period, under current rules. Separate resources, however, may be available.

How will Household Assistance affect the family you are staying with? Your host’s landlord must agree that your family can stay before Household Assistance will be approved. You may have to be added to the lease. Your host’s rent may go up. If Household Assistance pays all of your host’s rent or utilities, it could be counted as income for your host. Your host may get fewer benefits, such as TAFDC (Transitional AID to Families with Dependent Children), EAEDC (Emergency AID to the Elderly, Disabled and Children), or SSI (Supplemental Security Income).

**You can file an appeal if you feel you were forced to take or wrongly denied Household Assistance. Contact legal services or someone else you trust for advice or for help with your appeal.** If you have questions about HomeBASE, you can call DHCD’s Recipient Services Line: (617-573-1100). You can also call the Homeless Family Call-in Line at the Massachusetts Law Reform: 617-357- 0700 x376 or the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless: 781-595-7570. To

find your local legal services program, call the Legal Advocacy & Resource Center (LARC): 617-603-1700/1-800-342-5297 or go to [www.MassLegalHelp.org/find-legal-aid](http://www.MassLegalHelp.org/find-legal-aid).

### **5. Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) Homelessness Prevention Program**

If you and your family are at imminent risk of homelessness, you may be eligible for Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT), a state-funded homelessness prevention program administered by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and the statewide network of Housing Consumer Education Centers (HCECs). For state fiscal year 2016, which began on July 1, 2015, RAFT was funded at \$13 million in 2017. The program is targeted to families with children under the age of 21 and/or pregnant women with incomes at or below 50% of area median income, with at least 50% of the funds for families at or below 30% of area median income. Eligible families may receive up to \$4,000 in a 12-month period to pay for expenses to avoid homelessness or rapidly exit homelessness. In the Boston area, RAFT is administered by Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership's HCEC, 125 Lincoln Street, 5th Floor, Boston 02111, 800-272-0400 or 617-425-6700.

The **HCEC** provides limited financial assistance when available (such as RAFT), and they can help with other types of housing resources and advocacy year-round. If you are a homeowner and would like to talk with their foreclosure counselor, contact Stephen Freeman at 617-425-6761. More information is on their website, [www.mbhp.org](http://www.mbhp.org).

### **6. Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless**

It provides information and advocacy, and lobbies for better policies for families, adults, and unaccompanied youth who are at-risk or experiencing homelessness. In Boston, the Coalition advocates with community health centers, public schools, and early intervention programs to provide homelessness prevention services. The Coalition also operates a furniture bank for households exiting homelessness into housing and for other low-income households. The Mass. Coalition for the Homeless is located at 15 Bubier Street, Lynn, MA 01901. Contact them at 781-595-7570. Their website is: [www.mahomeless.org](http://www.mahomeless.org). They have a lot of information and materials there.

Boston residents who are homeless after 5:00 p.m. and on weekends can call the Boston Mayor's Hotline at 617-635-4500, for information and referral. During weekday hours, call the Emergency Shelter Commission at 617-635-4507 for information and referral. Families with children and pregnant women can apply for shelter benefits through the Department of Housing and Community Development's Division of Housing Stabilization. In Boston, DHCD has staff in the same building as the DTA office at 2201 Washington Street, Dudley Square, Roxbury MA, phone 617-989-6100.

#### **a. Free furniture/household goods**

The Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless runs a furniture bank for families and individuals from across the state who are transferring from a shelter to an apartment, are in a doubled-up situation after losing housing, have been referred by the DCF, DTA, or emergency shelter, or are homeless due to domestic violence. The furniture bank also provides blankets and other household

goods, when available. Furniture is donated and is in good condition. Call the Donations Assistance Program at 781-595-7570, ext. 11. A staff person loads the furniture on to a truck, but the organization does not provide a truck. They are located at 15 Bubier Street, Lynn, MA 01901. Their website is [www.donations@mahomeless.org](http://www.donations@mahomeless.org). Their website lists other furniture banks in Massachusetts.

Craigslist online (has free furniture and other items). It lists by region. Website is [www.boston.craigslist.org](http://www.boston.craigslist.org), click on “free stuff.”

Household Goods, Inc., 530 Main Street, Acton MA 01710. Contact is 978-635-1710 and their website is [www.householdgoods.org](http://www.householdgoods.org) or [www.hgm.org/receive.htm](http://www.hgm.org/receive.htm).

### **7. The Children’s Clothing Exchange (Help with children’s clothing)**

This is a program of Solutions at Work, is at the Roosevelt Towers Housing Complex, 391 Evereteze Way, Cambridge, MA 02141. Phone (617) 576-0039. Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.

You trade your child’s outgrown clothing, books, toys, and gear for age appropriate items. If you do not have children’s items to trade, you can volunteer your time to earn credits that you can use to receive items for your child (\$50 per family per year or \$25 and 25 volunteer hours). They have professional clothing for women and men who are entering a job, by appointment and referral. Families in crisis don’t need to exchange on their first visit. Free children’s books and toys and baby strollers and car seats are available.

They have a large, cheerful play space that kids are welcome to use while their parents browse for items. They also offer free arts and crafts and their website is [solutionsatwork.org/our-program](http://solutionsatwork.org/our-program).

### **8. Parents Helping Parents (Help for parents under stress)**

The Parental Stress Line (Parents Helping Parents) is a toll-free hotline to give support to parents who are under stress. It is available for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They have parent support groups, which are anonymous and confidential. Call 1-800-632-8188.

## **C. LEGAL SERVICES**

### **1. Free and Low-Cost Legal Help**

See Appendix C for a list by area.

### **2. Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS)**

If you are having trouble getting the benefits to which you are entitled, contact Greater Boston Legal Services at (617) 371-1234 or 800-323-3205, 197 Friend Street, Boston 02114. They can give you advice or representation to deal with the Department of Transitional Assistance (welfare) or Housing Authority. They may help you directly, or refer you to another legal service. Their Housing Unit does not generally take public/subsidized cases until the eviction stage, except for some urgent cases such as homeless families. GBLS provides either a bilingual advocate or uses interpreters to communicate with non-English-speaking clients. If you don’t live in the Boston area, they can refer you to legal services in your area.

### **3. Mass Legal Help**

You can also get legal advice online at Mass Legal Help, [www.masslegalhelp.org](http://www.masslegalhelp.org) for basic legal information on children and families, disabilities, domestic violence, health and mental health, housing and homelessness, immigration and criminal records.

### **4. Harvard Legal Aid Bureau**

Harvard Legal Aid Bureau provides free legal services to low-income people. They specialize in housing law, including individual evictions from public and private apartments; family law, including divorce, child custody, paternity visitation and support issues; government benefits law, including appeals of the denial or termination of welfare and food stamps, unemployment, or social security disability benefits; and wage and labor law, including nonpayment or underpayment of wages. They are located at 23 Everett St., Cambridge, MA 02138 and their contact is 617-495-4408. Hours are from 9 to 5 Monday through Friday. Call for an appointment or email to [clinical@law.harvard.edu](mailto:clinical@law.harvard.edu). Their website is [www.harvardlegalaid.org](http://www.harvardlegalaid.org).

### **5. The National Lawyer's Guild's Lawyer Referral Service**

The National Lawyer's Guild's Lawyer Referral Service provides affordable legal assistance for low to middle-income people by matching individuals with attorneys. Referrals are free of charge. They do not provide free legal services, but attorneys provide a free initial phone conversation. Fees are sometimes negotiated on a case-by-case basis. Referrals can be placed in English or Spanish, and attorneys are available who speak a wide variety of languages. \* They do not conduct in person client intake for referrals or walk-ins. Referral requests for attorneys should be completed online using the Attorney Request Form or by calling (617) 227-7008 or 617-227-7335. Their address is 14 Beacon Street, Suite 407, Boston MA 02108.

Referrals can be placed online 24/7. They serve the Massachusetts area. Information on legal issues and contacts for pro-bono legal assistance can be found on their website [www.nlgmass.org](http://www.nlgmass.org). The Massachusetts NLG Chapter contact is Urszula Masny-Latos at [nlgmass-director@igc.org](mailto:nlgmass-director@igc.org).

### **6. Disability Law Center of Massachusetts**

Disability Law Center of Massachusetts, 617-723-8455 or 1-800-872-9992, provides legal advocacy on disability issues to people in Massachusetts who have a wide range of physical, psychiatric, sensory and cognitive disabilities. DLC serves individuals who experience discrimination, abuse or neglect, or denial of services because of their disability. They handle access to community services, special education, health care, disability benefits, and rights and conditions in facilities. DLC does not handle general legal problems such as obtaining a divorce, filing for bankruptcy, or trust and estate issues. They are located at 11 Beacon St. #925, Boston, MA 02108. Their website is [www.dlc-ma.org](http://www.dlc-ma.org).

## **D. CASH ASSISTANCE – Temporary Assistance for Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC)**

### **1. Work requirement for TAFDC recipients**

Apply at your local Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) office or call 1-800-249-2007.

TAFDC applicants must complete a documented job search from the date of application until eligibility is determined. An applicant must be evaluated for a disability or other good cause exemptions, including lack of child care and lack of transportation, to be exempt from the job search application requirement. Call Greater Boston Legal Services, 617-371-1234, if you have been denied benefits because of the job search requirement, even though you have a good cause exemption.

Sometimes DTA puts pressure on workers to get more parents who receive TAFDC to hold down a job or do work activities of 20 to 30 hours per week. If you are being pressured by your welfare worker to do something you are unable to do, such as hold down or search for a job or another activity for some or all of the hours, ask your legal services office for help. You may be eligible to be exempt from the work requirement or time limit, or you may be eligible for a “good cause” exception.

Going to an education or training program counts toward the work requirement for a total of twelve (12) months. Most kinds of adult education and job training programs count. College programs, including 4 year colleges, can also count. (You need to major in something that will lead to a job.) Time spent in education and training when you are exempt from the work requirement does not count against your 12 months. If you need more than 12 months, check with Legal Services. There are various ways you may be able to get more time. The fact that a program will last more than 12 months is not legal grounds for DTA to refuse to count it for at least 12 months.

For people in shelter, DTA must treat housing search as fully meeting the work requirement, as long as the housing search you do meets the requirements of the Emergency Assistance (EA) shelter rules or, for non-EA shelters, the shelter’s rules — no matter how many hours of housing search you do. However, the current Commissioner is denying extensions of the 24-month time limit to some families that need them on the grounds that they “should” have done more than housing search, even though not required to at the time. Legal services may be able to help, but if you can do another activity, it would be safer, since any family could end up needing TAFDC longer than 24 months.

DTA is not supposed to lower or stop your benefits under the work requirement or your DTA Employment Development Plan if you have good cause, such as:

- ✓ you don't have suitable child care in place;
- ✓ you don't have affordable and reliable transportation;
- ✓ you need to do housing search because you can't stay where you are currently living
- ✓ even though you didn't find your own activity, DTA hasn't given you a community service site that is suitable for you and that will take you;
- ✓ you are sick, injured, or disabled (this might give you the right to be completely exempt);
- ✓ you have to care for a family member who has an illness or disability (this might give you the right to be completely exempt);

- ✓ you have a family crisis, an emergency or other compelling circumstance beyond your control;
- ✓ you don't want to stay at or accept a job that: violated minimum wage laws; discriminated on the basis of age, sex, race, religion, ethnic origin, or physical or mental disability; violated health and safety standards; or was available due to a strike or lockout.

Also, DTA is not supposed to lower or stop your benefits without first giving you a chance to talk about whether any good cause reasons apply. If you think DTA made a mistake in lowering or stopping your benefits, quickly file an appeal and contact your local Legal Services Office for help. Faxing your appeal to DTA's Division of Hearings no later than the day before your benefits are supposed to stop or be lowered gives you the right to keep getting your full benefits until your case is resolved or there's a hearing decision. Call to be sure your fax was received.

## **E. HEALTH CARE**

### **1. MassHealth**

MassHealth is the Massachusetts version of Medicaid and children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) combined as one. It is a public health insurance program for eligible low and medium-income residents of Massachusetts. People who receive TAFDC, SSI, or EAEDC are automatically eligible for MassHealth, and disabled people are eligible. To find out if you are eligible, call 1-888-665-9993 (TTY: 1-888-665-9997) and request an application, or download the application on their website, [www.MAhealthconnector.org](http://www.MAhealthconnector.org). Use the online MassHealth Eligibility check to see if you might qualify for benefits. To find a doctor or a dentist, or other health care provider in your area, call MassHealth Customer Service at 1-800-841-2900 (TTY: 1-800-497-4648).

### **2. BMC HealthNet Plan**

BMC HealthNet Plan is a health insurance program for low and moderate-income residents who don't have health insurance. Members get free or low cost health services through managed care health plans. There are several health plans to choose from. Private health insurance companies offer the plans. Some plans cost more than other plans.

To apply, call 1-877-623-6765 (TTY 1-877-623-7773). You can download the application at [MAhealthconnector.org](http://MAhealthconnector.org) (individual). You can get help with your application at [helpmeapply@bmchp.org](mailto:helpmeapply@bmchp.org). Also, you can call the Health Care for All Helpline at 1-800-272-4232 to get help filling out an application over the phone. You can get an application at your health center or hospital.

### **3. The Health Safety Net**

The Health Safety Net is a program for Massachusetts residents who are not eligible for health insurance, do not have coverage for all medically necessary services, or can't afford to buy it. The Health Safety Net is sometimes called Free Care. The goal of the Safety Net is to make sure that all Massachusetts residents can get health care when they need it, regardless of income.



People of any income with large medical bills that they cannot pay are also eligible. Your citizenship or immigration status does not affect your eligibility. For low-income residents, the Health Safety Net (Free Care) pays for medically necessary services at Massachusetts community health centers (CHCs) and hospitals. To be covered, services must be on the MassHealth Standard list of covered services. The Safety Net pays all of the cost, or part of the cost, depending on age and income. The Safety Net also helps families with medical hardships who do not have enough income to pay their medical bills.

Most people must file a MassHealth application to get Health Safety Net (Free Care) benefits. You can file your application at a community health center (CHC) or hospital, or you can send your application directly to MassHealth. If you are applying for Medical Hardship, you must file a Special Circumstances Application (SPCA) at a CHC or hospital, HSN:Medical Hardship, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Flr, Quincy 02171.

#### **4. Prescriptions**

##### **a. MCPHS Pharmacy Outreach (Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences)**

MCPHS Pharmacy Outreach is a free, confidential service available to all Massachusetts residents, who are seeking information regarding their medications, and may be able to refer them to places that would help them pay for their medication. Whether you are having difficulties affording your medications or want to know what the side effects are to your prescriptions, MCPHS Pharmacy Outreach can help. By calling a toll-free help line at 1-866-633-1617 or 800-503-6897 (Needymeds, Inc.), visiting our walk-in center at 25 Foster Street, Worcester, MA, or accessing our website (<http://www.massmedline.com>) or send an email to [massmedline@mcjphs.edu](mailto:massmedline@mcjphs.edu). Patients will receive information about their medications, prescription drug coverage, including the Medicare Drug benefit, and assistance with accessing affordable prescription drug programs. They are available Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

#### **5. Questions about health care?**

##### **a. Health Care for All**

Health Care for All is a non-profit Massachusetts advocacy agency that promotes affordable and comprehensive health coverage for all groups. Their work combines policy analysis, information referral, personal and legal advocacy, community organizing and public education. They give help by phone or by email. They do not take walk-ins. Their website is: [www.hcfama.org](http://www.hcfama.org). They are located at One Federal Street, Boston 02110. Health Care for All helpline is 1-617-350-7279.

#### **6. Health care for the homeless**

##### **a. Boston Health Care for the Homeless**

Boston Health Care for the Homeless program provides healthcare for homeless men, women, and children in the greater Boston area at clinics, overnight and day shelters, family and domestic violence shelters and Boston hospitals. They have a Respite Program for homeless individuals who are not sick enough to be in the hospital, but too sick to be on the street or in a shelter. Call 857-

654-1000, or visit one of their sites, for more information. Their website is [www.bhchp.org](http://www.bhchp.org). They are located at 780 Albany Street, Boston.

## **7. Medical equipment for disabled children**

### **a. Pass it On, Inc.**

Pass it On, Inc. gives pediatric medical equipment for disabled children up to age 22, including wheelchairs, standers, gait trainers, daily living aids, and related equipment. They will pick up and drop off items from Eastern Massachusetts to Worcester. While the equipment is free, they ask for help in paying for transporting the equipment, on a sliding scale.

Call 1-800-267-6768 or 508-477-6966 or email to [passitonforkids@comcast.net](mailto:passitonforkids@comcast.net). Their website is [www.passitonforkids.org](http://www.passitonforkids.org). They are open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Mail your inquiry at P.O. Box 2120, Mashpee MA 02649.

## **8. Emergency birth control**

In the United States, anyone of any age can purchase Plan B One-step emergency contraception over the counter at most pharmacies, and health centers. Costs vary from \$30 to \$65. You need to be 17 or over to buy **Next Choice One Dose** and **My Way** without a prescription. If you are 16 or younger, you will need a prescription to get those pills.

If you have had unprotected sex or think your birth control method has failed, you can use the “morning-after-pill” to prevent pregnancy. Just ask your pharmacist for Plan B One-Step. Emergency contraception works best if taken as soon as possible and within 5 days after sex. If you are sexually active, it is good to have it on hand just in case. If a pharmacy refuses to give you the pill, call the Emergency Contraception Hotline, 1-888-not-2-lat (1-888-668-2528), or go to the Emergency Contraception Website, [ec.princeton.edu](http://ec.princeton.edu). The website gives the name of a pharmacy near you where you can get the pill.

## **F. FUEL/ UTILITIES/ PHONES**

### **1. Fuel Assistance for the winter months**

Low-Income TENANTS AND HOMEOWNERS can get help paying for HEATING fuel. In Boston, Brookline and Newton, Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) administers the federal fuel assistance program. Phone 617-357-6012, ext. 11.

Assistance is for any form of heating FUEL— oil, gas, electric, wood, or kerosene. If you live in **non-subsidized housing**, you are eligible for fuel assistance if you pay for heat separately or if heat is included in your rent.

If you are a tenant in **subsidized housing** you can get assistance if you pay for heat directly or if heat is included in the rent **and** the rent is more than 30% of your income. If rent is less than 30% of your income, you are not eligible.

Sign-up period is November 1 to April 30. Eligibility level is 60 percent of the median income in Massachusetts—\$34,001 for a family of 1; \$44,463 for 2; \$54,925 for 3; \$65,387 for 4. For more details, see <http://www.bostonabcd.org/fuel-assistance-liheap.aspx>.



Other benefits for people eligible for fuel assistance are weatherization (insulating your house against the cold), electrical audits, and heating system repair/replacement. Low-income households applying for Fuel Assistance may also qualify for a Free Energy Audit via the associated, Weatherization program, without having to apply separately.

If you live outside of Boston, Brookline, and Newton, call the Department of Housing and Community Development cold relief heat line at 1-800-632-8175 and enter your zip code to find out the agency near you or visit their office at 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 300 in Boston Monday - Friday from 8:45 am to 5:00 pm.

## **2. The Good Neighbor Energy Fund**

The Good Neighbor Energy Fund has provided energy assistance to hundreds-of-thousands of residents in temporary crisis who are struggling to pay their energy bills. It is available to any Massachusetts resident who, because of temporary financial difficulty, cannot meet a month's energy expense and is not eligible for state or federal fuel assistance. It is a cooperative effort between the participating energy companies in Massachusetts, The Salvation Army, which administers the Fund, and residents of the Commonwealth. This year's Fund disbursement is \$300 per eligible household per year.

To qualify for assistance from the Fund, an applicant's gross household income must fall between 60 and 80 percent of the state's median income levels. For example, a household size of 1 would need to have a total gross yearly income of between \$33,126 and \$44,168 to qualify. A household of 2 would need to have a yearly income of between \$43,319 and \$57,759 to qualify. A household of 3 would need to have a yearly income of between \$53,511 and \$71,348 to qualify. A household of 4 would need to have a yearly income of between \$63,704 and \$84,939 to qualify. To apply, please visit one of the 36 local Salvation Army offices throughout the state. For more information, call 1-800-334-3047 if in the Eastern part of Massachusetts (serving area codes 508, 617, 781 and 978) or 1-800-262-1320 if in the Western part of the state (serving area code 413); or visit [www.magoodneighbor.org](http://www.magoodneighbor.org).

## **3. Mass Energy Consumers Alliance saves money on oil**

You can save \$100 to \$300 on your heating oil by joining the Mass Energy Consumers Alliance for \$25, \$15 for people on a fixed income, senior citizens, and retirees per year. It is free for anyone who has fuel assistance. You need to provide a letter of approval from the fuel assistance agency and send it with your application. Members save from 35 to 45 cents a gallon off of the Massachusetts state average. Reliable full-service dealers will deliver your oil and service your system. Call them at 617-524-3950 or 1-800-287- 3950 for more information, in English or Spanish. Their website is [www.massenergy.org](http://www.massenergy.org). They are located at 284 Amory Street, Boston, MA 02130 or send an email to [reply@massenergy.org](mailto:reply@massenergy.org). The Office hours are Monday - Friday from 9am to 5pm.

## **4. Help with electric and gas bills**

Discounted Gas and Electric Rates and Budget Plans-- Massachusetts gas and electric utilities must offer a Low Income Discount Rate. The only municipal-run utility company that offers discount rates on gas is Belmont Municipal.

To be eligible for electric and gas discounts, you need to receive fuel assistance Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) or other assistance under a government program that serves low-income households. Most families receiving Fuel Assistance should be enrolled automatically. Others who qualify should obtain an application from the utility and send it back promptly or simply call the company—the utility should enroll the household right away, and not wait to verify income. For winter 2013/2014, the income limit for eligibility for 1 person is \$33,126; for 2 people, \$43,319; for 3 people, \$53,511; for 4 people, \$63,704. For more information, visit [www.masslegalhelp.org/housing/ut](http://www.masslegalhelp.org/housing/ut) or call LIHEAP 617-573-1406.

Anyone can lower high winter utility bills with budget plans. Utilities offer level monthly payment plans. They estimate annual usage and divide that amount into 12 equal payments.

Any household can get a free “energy audit,” conducted by their utility company, listing ways to save on energy bills.

## **5. Protection against utility shut-offs**

### **a. Winter months**

During the winter months, gas and electric utility companies cannot shut off utilities for low-income households if those households would be without heat.

### **b. No Shut-Off for special people**

**Utility companies cannot shut off utilities for anyone in the household:**

- ✓ **over 65 & low-income**
- ✓ **families with infants**
- ✓ **people with serious illnesses who cannot afford to pay their utility bills**
- ✓ **tenants whose landlords are responsible for utility bills**

Apply by calling your utility company to register for shutoff protection. For the customer service number of your gas or electric company, see the Utilities Directory on the website of Mass Resources, [www.massresources.org/shutoff](http://www.massresources.org/shutoff), or go the Department of Utilities list of Gas and Electric Companies that serve your City or Town on that website. If you need more information or have questions about your rights, call the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) at 1-877-886-5066, One South Station, Boston 02110 or consumer complaints at 617-737-2836 or email to [dpuconsumer.complaints@state.ma.us](mailto:dpuconsumer.complaints@state.ma.us).

### **c. Repayment plans**

The major utility companies offer arrearage management payment plans. Eligible clients may have their utility debt forgiven up to \$1,500 per year while adhering to a structured payment plan. For more information, call your utility company.

### **d. Utility Arrearage Forgiveness**

ABCD provides referral and advocacy services for eligible clients interested in help for unpaid or overdue bills. The utility companies offer arrearage management programs where eligible clients may have their utility debt forgiven (up to approximately \$1500 per year) while adhering to a

structured payment plan. To take advantage of these programs, call NationalGrid 800-233-5325 or the Eversource Call Center Rep at 1-800-315-2496 who can explain the program in greater detail.

#### **i. Income eligibility**

Eligibility is 60% of the state's median income. For 1 person, \$33,126; for 2, \$43,319; for 3, \$53,511; for 4, \$63,704.

#### **ii. What to Do If You Are NOT Satisfied with the Utility's Response**

The Consumer Division of the State's Department of Public Utilities (DPY) helps consumers resolve disputes with their utility companies. Call the Consumer Division at 1-877-886-5066 if the utility company makes it difficult to work out a repayment plan or threatens to shut off service where the household is protected from termination. If you are not having much luck or feel like you are not getting anywhere call your District City Councilor and let them know your hardship and ask if they can give a call on your behalf.

### **6. Help with the telephone bill**

You can save on your telephone bill for local service with the telephone company's Lifeline and Linkup programs. Anyone on MassHealth, SSI, Food Stamps, Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC), Fuel Assistance, Emergency Aid to the Elderly Disabled and Children (EAEDC), Subsidized Housing, or School Lunch is eligible.

Lifeline and Link-up program is a federal program that provides a monthly discount on landline or wireless phone service to eligible low-income households. Lifeline discount can lower or eliminate the cost of your monthly phone bills.

The program reduces monthly telephone bills up to \$18.39 a month if you use Verizon, and similar savings for other providers, and Link-Up provides qualified subscribers with a one-time discount off of the initial installation fee for one traditional, wire line phone service at the primary residence or the activation fee for one wireless phone service. Contact your local telephone company. You may apply for Link-Up assistance when placing an order for telephone service. You may also get a form from the worker at your program.

The DTA or the Office of Fuel Assistance needs to verify that you are on one of those programs. Their website is [lifeline.myfamilymobile.com](http://lifeline.myfamilymobile.com). For households that do not participate in a qualifying public assistance program, the income limit for the Lifeline program is 135% of the federal poverty guidelines. For a family of 1, it is \$16,038; for 2, \$21,627; for 3, \$27,216; for 4, \$32,805.

### **7. Free cell phone**

SafeLink Wireless is a government-supported program that provides a free cell phone plus a choice of three different calling plans for income-eligible customers. The process to qualify for Lifeline Service depends on the State you live in. In Massachusetts, you may qualify if...

- ✓ You already participate in State or Federal assistance program such as SSI, Federal Public

Housing Assistance, Food Stamps, MassHealth, EAEDC, TAFDC, Fuel Assistance, or School Lunch

- ✓ No one in your household currently receives Lifeline Service through another phone carrier.
- ✓ You have a valid United States Postal Address. A P.O. Box is not acceptable.

In addition to meeting the guidelines above you will also be required to provide proof of your participation in an assistance program, or proof of your income level. To request an application, call 1- 800-723-3546, or go online at [www.safelink.com](http://www.safelink.com). You can also apply at your public library.

## **8. Boston Water and Sewer (BW&S) assistance**

If you are faced with an unexpected emergency, struggling to keep up with your utility water bill or faced with a shut off notice. Call the BW&S Collections Department and ask one of their representatives to help you arrange a payment plan or find some type of assistance with paying your bill over an extended period of time.

Payment plans are provided to qualified low income customers. Or there may be grants issued to a limited number of low income families in Suffolk County. In addition to direct financial aid and payment programs, seniors and disabled customers can receive up to a 25% discount on their water bill.

For additional information about financial assistance, grants, payment plans, or discounts, please stop by the Boston Water and Sewer Commission Customer Service Department at 980 Harrison Avenue in Boston, or call the office at 617-989-7800.

## **G. TAX CREDITS**

### **1. Earned Income Tax Credit**

#### **a. Get money back from Earned Income Tax Credit**

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EIC or EITC) is a refundable credit for workers with low or moderate earned incomes. This credit is meant to supplement the income you have earned through working, whether for yourself ([self-employed](#)) or for someone else. If you qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit you can reduce your taxes and increase your [tax refund](#). In general, the EITC allows more working people and their families to keep more of their hard-earned money.

#### **b. Who is eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit?**

The EITC phases out entirely (is not available) for taxpayers with an adjusted gross income of: \$14,820 with no Qualifying Children (\$20,330 if married filing jointly) \$39,131 with one Qualifying Child (\$44,651 if married filing jointly) \$44,454 with two Qualifying Children (\$49,974 if married filing jointly)

#### **c. How Much Earned Income Tax Credit Do I Get?**

The amount of Earned Income Credit you get depends on several factors. In general, your credit

is more valuable if you have one or more [Qualifying Children](#).

The maximum amount of credit for Tax Year 2016 is:

- ✓ \$6,269 with three or more qualifying children
- ✓ \$5,572 with two qualifying children
- ✓ \$3,373 with one qualifying child
- ✓ \$506 with no qualifying children

For more information on whether a child qualifies you for EITC, see:

- ✓ [Qualifying Child Rules](#), or
- ✓ [Publication 596, Rules If You Have a Qualifying Child](#).

You earned this money, so don't let your refund go unclaimed.

#### **d. Who can get the EITC and how much is it worth?**

- ✓ Single or married people who worked full-time or part-time at some point in 2016 can qualify for the EIC, depending on their income. College students who have a work-study job can get EIC.
- ✓ Workers who were raising one child in their home and had income of less than \$39,296 (or \$44,846 for married workers) in 2016 can get an EIC of up to \$3,373.
- ✓ Workers who were raising two children in their home and had income of less than \$44,648 (or \$50,198 for married workers) in 2016 can get an EIC of up to \$5,752.
- ✓ Workers who were raising three or more children in their home and had income of less than \$47,977 (or \$53,505 for married workers) in 2012 can get an EIC of up to \$6,269.
- ✓ Workers who were not raising children in their home, were between ages 25 and 64 on December 31, 2015, and had income below \$14,880 (or \$20,430 for married workers) can get an EIC up to \$506.

If you would like to get an estimate of how much you might be entitled to get back, go to the EITC website at [www.cbpp.org/eic2014/calculator](http://www.cbpp.org/eic2014/calculator). You can get EITC Advance Payments in your paychecks. To get EITC Advance payments, give a W- 5 form to your employer. You can get the W-5 from your employer, or by calling the IRS at 1-800-TAX- FORM (1-800-829-3676). If you have a checking account, you can have your EITC refund deposited directly.

Some people pay money to a private tax company like H&R Block to get help in filing their tax form or to get the money right away. Rather than do that, try to get free advice. Keep the money in your pocket, or save it and use it to build a better future for you and your family. ABCD runs

13 tax preparation sites in Boston ([www.bostonabcd.org](http://www.bostonabcd.org)). To find the tax preparation site nearest you, go to <http://masscashback.ehs.state.ma.us>.

A family's earned income tax credit payments do not count as income in determining eligibility or benefit levels for TAFDC, Medicaid, food stamps, SSI, work experience activities (such as community service), or public housing.

To figure your EITC, use a special worksheet included as part of the EITC instructions in form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ.

Massachusetts workers get an extra state credit worth 15% of their federal credit. You can order a tax form and get more information by calling 617-887-6367 or 1-800-392-6089. Their website is [www.mass.gov/dor](http://www.mass.gov/dor).

## **2. The Child Tax Credit: An extra tax break for working families!**

The Child Tax Credit (CTC) is a federal tax credit worth up to \$1,000 for each qualifying child under age 17 claimed on the worker's tax return. To be eligible for the CTC refund, a single or married worker must:

- ✓ have a qualifying child under age 19
- ✓ have taxable earned income above \$3,400
- ✓ have either a Social Security number or an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number.

Immigrant workers with either type of number may be able to claim the CTC refund.

Eligible families can get up to \$1,000 for each qualifying child under age 19 claimed on their tax return.

To get the Child Tax Credit refund, file a federal tax return—Form 1040 or 1040A, but not 1040EZ. Some families can get the credit even if they owe no income tax. This is called the Additional CTC refund. To find out if you are eligible for this, file form 8812. This form must be attached to the tax return for a family to receive the CTC refund.

Working families can get both the Child Tax Credit refund and the Earned Income Credit. Neither the Earned Income Credit nor the Child Tax Credit refund counts as income in determining eligibility for any federal, state or local benefits such as food stamps, SSI, or child care financed even in part by federal funds.

## **H. IMMIGRATION HELP**

### **1. Help available for immigrants**

#### **a. Greater Boston Legal Services**

Greater Boston Legal Services at 617-371-1234 represents immigrants.

#### **b. The Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA)**

MIRA provides trainings, advocacy, and information to promote the rights and integration of immigrants and refugees. They involve an active membership of 130 organizations. They do not provide services to individuals, but can refer people to one of their member organizations. Call 617-350-5480. Their website is [www.miracoalition.org](http://www.miracoalition.org).

#### **c. The Irish International Immigrant Center**

The Irish International Immigrant Center has supported Irish immigrants since 1989 and has grown into a multiservice center for people from 120 countries helping them find their place in our multicultural society. Promoting civic engagement and facilitating cultural integration, they work in the US and also in Ireland. Advocating for social change, their vision is one of an integrated society in which all people are treated with respect, dignity and enjoy equal opportunities and protections. They give legal assistance in the following areas: Adjustment of status; Consular Processing; Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA); Employment authorization; Family-based petitions; Naturalization/Citizenship; Temporary Protected Status. They give legal help in filings with USCIS. Their non-legal services include ESL, legislative advocacy, psychological or psychiatric services, referral to other services, and social services. They are located at One State Street, Suite 800, Boston, MA 02109, and their contact number is 617-542-7654. For more information, visit their website at <http://www.iiicenter.org>.

#### **d. Catholic Charities Refugee and Immigration Office**

Contact them at 617-464-8100. This office helps refugees, asylees, and Cuban and Haitian parolees (people who have been detained by the U.S. Department of Justice and are now on parole). Their services include: cash assistance, employment assistance, case management, English classes, and social service referrals. They also have ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes.

Asylees can receive services for eight months ([www.acf.hhs.gov](http://www.acf.hhs.gov) - Asylee Eligibility for Assistance and Services). It is best to ask for services within the first month after getting asylum status, when they are eligible for more services such as cash assistance and employment services. They are located at 275 W. Broadway, South Boston, MA 02127. Their website is [www.ccab.org/refugees](http://www.ccab.org/refugees).

#### **e. The Political Asylum/ Immigration Representation Project (PAIR)**

PAIR is a nationally recognized pro bono model that works to secure safety and freedom for asylum-seekers who have fled from persecution throughout the world and to promote the rights of immigrants unjustly detained. PAIR provides hope and a new beginning to asylum-seekers, torture survivors and immigration detainees.

PAIR was formed in 1989. A coalition of legal services agencies, civil rights and civil liberties organizations, and bar associations responded to meet an emergency need for legal representation of 83 workers, mostly from El Salvador, whom the INS arrested at the Suffolk Downs racetrack in Revere, Massachusetts.



### **i. The Asylum Program**

The Asylum Program is the leading program in Massachusetts to recruit, mentor and train attorneys from private law firms to represent without charge low-income asylum-seekers who have fled from persecution throughout the world. The goal of this program is to secure safety for people who have tried to exercise freedoms we take for granted: the right to express opinions, freedom of speech and assembly, or the right to practice a religion.

### **ii. The Detention Program**

The Detention Program, launched in 1990, is the only immigration legal services program with negotiated access to all three major ICE detention centers in Massachusetts. PAIR has advised and represented over 700 immigration detainees who originally came from throughout the world. PAIR accomplishes this work through staff attorneys, fellows, pro bono attorneys from the AILA New England Chapter and private practices, and five law school immigration clinical programs. Call for an appointment, 617-742-9296. Their website is [www.pairproject.org](http://www.pairproject.org).

### **f. Community Legal Services and Counseling Center**

Community Legal Services and Counseling Center provides legal aid and affordable psychological counseling services to low-income individuals and families in the Greater Boston area. This includes free legal services in the areas of domestic violence and abused children, individuals, families, and senior citizens at risk of homelessness, people with disabilities, and refugees and immigrant victims of torture, gender-based violence, and other types of crimes. Counseling fees are assessed on a sliding scale basis. Call the office for information on specific services. Contact them at 617-661-1010, 1 West St., Cambridge. Their website is [www.clsacc.org](http://www.clsacc.org).

## **I. EDUCATION & TRAINING**

### **1. American Student Assistance**

American Student Assistance can help you find scholarships if you are income eligible, choose a college, complete admission and financial aid applications, get your college admission fee waived, and get advice on paying for college. You can talk with an advisor, use their computers to find scholarships, and look through their resource books — all free of charge. There are Student Assistance centers in Boston, Brockton, Chelsea, and Cambridge. The Boston phone number is 617-536-0200 (in the Concourse level of the Boston Public Library). They are open 9-7:30 pm Monday-Thursday and 9-5:00 pm Friday and Saturday. The Brockton phone number is 866-891-4716. The website is [www.asa.org/plan](http://www.asa.org/plan).

### **2. Urban College of Boston (UCB)**

UCB is a two-year college that provides inner-city residents who might otherwise never go to college a highly supportive environment that integrates a college education with career preparation and skill development, and both encourages and enables students to transfer to four-year institutions to complete their bachelor's degrees. It offers courses in multiple languages, including Spanish and Chinese.

It is located at ABCD (Action for Boston Community Development) at 178 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111, phone 617-348-6359 and the email is [contact@urbancollege.edu](mailto:contact@urbancollege.edu). Through its



connection with ABCD, UCB offers students extensive support services (including day care, referral health services, personal counseling and job placement) that enable them to stay in school and complete their degrees. The college serves as a “feeder system” for students from literacy, GED, adult education, Head Start (parents and staff) and youth programs into higher education. ABCD, in turn, serves as a “feeder system” to UCB, with many ABCD employees studying at the college or providing referrals to it.

The Urban College offers college credit for job-training and staff development programs, creating a direct link between these programs and the world of higher education. The college also provides relevant internship opportunities for students. Urban College is authorized to provide federal Pell Grants to eligible students.

### **3. Scholarship help for low-income women**

The Patsy Takemoto Mink Fellowship each year gives scholarships of \$53,000 to assist low-income women to achieve an educational objective. The fellowship is named for the woman who represented her native Hawaii in the U.S. Congress. She fought against welfare reform in Congress. Her daughter Gwendolyn Mink, author of *Welfare’s End*, established the fellowship, along with Patsy Mink’s husband, to honor her deceased mother. To apply, go to their website at [www.patsyminkfoundation.org/edsupport.html](http://www.patsyminkfoundation.org/edsupport.html).

### **4. St. Mary’s Center for Women and Children**

Contact this organization at 617-436-8600, 90 Cushing Avenue, Uphams Corner in Dorchester, MA. It offers innovative and family-centered programs for women and children who have experienced trauma and are living in poverty. They provide shelter, clinical and educational services, job training, employment placement, and search for affordable permanent housing. Their [GRLZ.org](http://GRLZ.org) program operates an on-campus web-based broadcasting station and builds social, academic, and work competencies for at-risk girls. Their website is [www.stmaryscenterma.org](http://www.stmaryscenterma.org).

### **5. Project Hope — Free Adult Education, Child Care and Health Care training programs**

Project Hope’s programs include basic literacy, GED preparation, career advising transition to college support, case management, leadership development, and English for Speakers of other languages. They offer a basic adult education to more than 80 low-income women a year. They train low-income women for childcare careers. They offer free Health Care training programs for entry-level healthcare positions, in partnership with community health organizations. Interested Candidates: Read the Open House Information at [www.prohope.org/openhouse\\_faq.htm](http://www.prohope.org/openhouse_faq.htm) and complete the Registration Form. If you have questions, please call 617-442-1880 and leave a message. A staff member will return your call.

### **6. YMCA Training, Inc.**

This is a 5-month training program for jobs in Medical Office, Health Insurance, Banking, and Administrative Customer Service. There are internship opportunities in an 8-week internship. There is assistance in job matching and job search. There are long-term partnerships with major employers.

Extra services include: ESOL English Pronunciation classes; additional tutoring in computers, math, and writing; individual mentors to help each trainee and graduate prepare for and conduct a successful job search; support and referrals for medical, counseling, child care, housing, legal, and CORI issues.

Must have a High School diploma or GED. This is a professional environment with a dress code.

To apply, call 617-542-1800 or check out their website at [www.ymcaboston.org/traininginc](http://www.ymcaboston.org/traininginc).

## **J. SENIOR CITIZENS**

1. Many towns have senior centers. Contact local senior center for services.
2. Executive Office of Elder Affairs offers programs and services. Call 1-617-727-7750. [www.mass.gov/elders/programs-and-services](http://www.mass.gov/elders/programs-and-services).
3. Elder Resource Guide is published by the Brookline Council on Aging and the Brookline Senior Center. It contains a wealth of information for elders. It is available online at [www.brooklinema.gov](http://www.brooklinema.gov). Click on “Departments,” “Council on Aging,” and “Elder Resource Guide.” Their contact is 617-730-2777.
4. Elder abuse--If abuse is suspected, contact Executive Office of Elder Affairs Hotline—800-922-2275, or Central Boston Elder Services (9-5, M-F) 617-442-4200. [www.centalboston.org](http://www.centalboston.org).
5. Transportation—
  - a. The Ride—for Seniors who cannot ride public transportation due to disability. Cost \$3. Contact Ride Eligibility at MBTA—617-337-2727.
  - b. Councils on Aging and Senior Centers also help Seniors with transportation through volunteer driving programs.
  - c. Masshealth provides nonemergency transportation to medical appointments. Call Mass Health Customer Service for guidelines—1-800-841-2900.

## **K. WHO GIVES HELP?**

Where can you go for help with rent, food, money, utilities or fuel assistance when your welfare or SSI money runs out, or when you have been kicked off of welfare because of time limits?

### **1. City Life/Vida Urbana**

This is a 40 year-old bilingual, community organization whose mission is to fight for racial, social and economic justice and gender equality by building working class power through direct action, coalition building, education and advocacy. In organizing poor and working class people of diverse race and nationalities, they promote individual empowerment, develop community leaders, and are building a movement to effect systemic change and transform society. Their roots are in promoting tenant rights and preventing housing displacement. In response to the devastating impact of the foreclosure crisis on communities in Boston, they launched a major campaign in 2007, the Post-Foreclosure Eviction Defense campaign to help keep people facing foreclosure in their homes. Victories won by hundreds of organized families have created public and political pressure, which is driving legislative reform and has inspired the emergence of similar campaigns across the region.

In 2011, a grant from the Open Society Foundations' Neighborhood Stabilization Initiative has made it possible for them to expand this effort beyond Boston. They are now working closely with groups in four other cities and towns within Massachusetts and Rhode Island that have begun to replicate this model. Through regional and national presentations and trainings, CL/VU is extending its impact. CL/VU maintains its core commitment to movement building and working across issues through staff and members' active participation in numerous peace and justice coalitions.

They are located at 284 Amory Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130. If you need their help or if you want to join their organizing, call them at 617-524-3541. Their email is [info@clvu.org](mailto:info@clvu.org). Their website is [www.clvu.org](http://www.clvu.org). Fax 617-524-3555.

## **2. The United Way**

The United Way First Call for Help is a good place to begin looking. They can give you information and a referral. Call them at 211. They are open day and night, seven days a week. They have interpreter services for up to 140 different languages.

## **3. Substance Abuse Help Line**

1- 800-327-5050. They are open 24 hours a day.

## **4. Catholic Charities**

With 15 sites throughout Greater Boston, Catholic Charities is able to provide a wide range of support, including food pantries, rent and mortgage assistance, utility assistance, assistance in providing furniture, baby supplies, clothing and other necessities, seasonal and holiday assistance for families who cannot afford a warm meal at Thanksgiving or gifts for their children at Christmas. For a list of their basic needs, click on [www.ccab.org/basic-needs](http://www.ccab.org/basic-needs). For a list of their locations, click on [www.ccab.org](http://www.ccab.org).

## **5. Salvation Army: Housing and Homeless Services**

Group homes, emergency shelters, and transitional living centers provide housing on a temporary basis for varying amounts of time. They:

- ✓ serve the homeless by providing food and overnight lodging;
- ✓ provide educational, counseling and vocational services to homeless and destitute individuals and families for extended periods;
- ✓ address long-term specific issues of youth for whom family care is undesirable or unavailable. Education, counseling, health care and specific training seek to meet the needs of such groups as pregnant teens, emancipated minors, and wards of the juvenile court; and
- ✓ address specific health or societal driven needs of particular populations.

Their family service programs help families and needy individuals with emergency food, housing, utility assistance and other needs.

Salvation Army programs vary with local needs. For information on specific programs and locations, contact your local Salvation Army Corps Community Center by doing a zip code search on their website's Location field at [www.salvationarmyusa.org](http://www.salvationarmyusa.org); contact number is 617-536-5260.

## **6. ABCD Boston**

Gives housing counseling for people going through eviction, or housing court. If Boston residents have a letter of eviction from the landlord or a summons for housing court, the counselor will assess if there are any funding opportunities. They also do mortgage and foreclosure counseling. They offer housing search workshops that focus on how to apply for Boston Housing Authority and other subsidized housing. Their number is 617-348-6347. Their website is [www.bostonabcd.org](http://www.bostonabcd.org).

## **7. Family Aid Boston (formerly Travelers Aid Family Service)**

Has a program that provides short-term emergency shelter to Boston families in crisis, working in collaboration with the Mayor's Hotline.

There is also a homeless prevention program for Boston families to help pay back rent, if funds are available, and the agency provides shelter and stabilization services for homeless families referred from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development. They have an employment service to assist families with finding jobs, advancing their careers, and furthering their education.

For eligibility requirements call 617-542-7286, Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM. Staff bilingual in Spanish translation are available. Their website is [www.familyaidboston.org](http://www.familyaidboston.org), 727 Atlantic Avenue, Boston 02111.

## **8. Organizations operating by town**

Some organizations operate on a town-by-town basis. Their numbers can be found in the phonebook, or by dialing 411. These include local churches and civic clubs, including: Kiwanis, Elks, Lions, Knights of Columbus, Rotary, Quota, Jaycees, and The Masons.

## **9. Veterans**

Veterans can get some help at their local Veteran's Services. The Federal Department of Veterans Affairs has published a book that lists Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents. It is available online at [www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits.book.asp](http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits.book.asp).

## **L. More useful information**

1. The **DTA Recipient Services Office** is very helpful in giving information about policy and what you are entitled to. **DTA regulations are available on the Web:** [www.mass.gov/dta/regulations](http://www.mass.gov/dta/regulations) or call 1-800-445-6604.
2. **Childcare** benefits regulations and other information are available on the web at [www.mass.gov/edu](http://www.mass.gov/edu), which is the website for the State Office of Child Care Services. The address is 51 Sleeper Street, 4th FL, Boston 02210 and the contact is 617-988-6600.

3. **Coming Home Directory:** A Resource Directory for Ex-Offenders Returning to Greater Boston Communities is a comprehensive resource book published by the Crime and Justice Institute. It is available online at [www.cominghomedirectory.org](http://www.cominghomedirectory.org). The directory is published by the Crime and Justice Institute, 617-482-2520, ext. 128.
4. **Do you have a Criminal Record?** Do you have trouble finding jobs or housing because of your CORI? If you have a CORI and need information about jobs, housing, sealing your record, mistakes on your CORI or other problems, call the Legal Advocacy and Resource Center at 617-603-1704. For more information about CORI law, visit [www.masslegalhelp.org/cori](http://www.masslegalhelp.org/cori).
5. **The Massachusetts Alliance on Teen Pregnancy Benefits Access Line**, for teen parents and people who work with them. They answer questions about welfare, food stamps, housing, childcare or other services in your area that teens and their children might be eligible for. Call 617-482-9122 or visit their website at [www.massteenpregnancy.org](http://www.massteenpregnancy.org), 105 Chauncy Street, 8th FL, Boston 02111.
6. **Jane Doe, Inc.** is a hotline, sponsored by the Mass. Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, that helps people who are sexually assaulted or fleeing from domestic violence. Call (617) 248-0922. (Website is [www.janedoe.org](http://www.janedoe.org).)
7. **National Network of Abortion Funds** - If you need an abortion but are unable to pay for it, the National Network of Abortion Funds may be able to help you. Visit their websites at [nnaaf.org](http://nnaaf.org) and <https://abortionfunds.org>.

## **M. Trauma Resources for Victims of Violence**

### **1. Office of the Attorney General (Maura Healy), Victim compensation & Assistance Division**

The Massachusetts Attorney General's Office is committed to empowering crime victims and providing them with the tools and support they need to begin the healing process.

The Victim Compensation and Assistance Division is one resource that provides financial assistance to eligible victims of violent crime for uninsured medical and dental care, mental health counseling, funeral and burial costs, and income lost due to the inability to work. Their staff will assist you in understanding your rights as a crime victim, determining what expenses may be eligible for compensation, and assessing what other resources are available to assist you. Funds used are primarily obtained from perpetrators, and can assist with expenses up to a maximum of \$25,000 per crime. Application is available online at [www.mass.gov/ago/vcomp](http://www.mass.gov/ago/vcomp). The office is located at One Ashburton Place Boston, MA 02108 and their contact number is (617) 727-2200 ext. 2160.

### **2. The Louis D. Brown Peace Institute**

The Peace Institute is a center for healing, teaching, and learning for families and communities impacted by murder, trauma, grief, and loss. The organization offers the "Rest in Peace Fund" to provide financial assistance to survivors of homicide victims who are unable to pay upfront burial

costs. The office is located at 15 Christopher St., Dorchester, MA 02122 and more information can be obtained from their website at [info@ldbpeaceinstitute.org](mailto:info@ldbpeaceinstitute.org). Contact number is (617) 825-1917.

### **3. City of Boston**

Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) has resources to support the trauma families experience when they become a victim from violence. There are 8 Trauma Recovery Teams at Community Health Centers in Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Mattapan and Roxbury. The trauma recovery teams are an ongoing resource for residents impacted by violent or other traumatic events, with services available on an on-going basis after the short term crisis response needs are met. Residents are able to use this resource regardless of when the incident took place and services will be available for as long as community members need support with coping and rehabilitation. For more information on the Trauma Recovery Centers and how to connect with someone from the centers listed below, please contact 617-534-2382. BPHC is located at 1010 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston MA 02118.

### **4. Suffolk County District Attorney's Office**

The Suffolk County District Attorney's Office (Daniel F. Conley, District Attorney) provides information, support, and assistance to witnesses, victims of violence and their family members. The services that this office provides to help survivors of homicide are:

Victim of Violent Crime Application Assistance/Compensation, Crisis Intervention and Therapy Referrals, Court Notification, Bail Notification Services, Education about the Criminal Justice System/Your Rights Under the Victim Bill of Rights, Trial Preparation/In Court Advocacy and Support, Victim Impact Statement Preparation and Post Sentencing Issues/Offender Release.

The office is located at One Bulfinch Place in Boston and their contact is 617-619-4000. You should look at the website to get a better idea of the services offered at [www.suffolkdistrictattorney.com](http://www.suffolkdistrictattorney.com).

### **5. Victims of Violence Trauma Support Groups**

#### **a. Mothers of Justice**

Mothers for Justice and Equality is a goal-oriented, trauma-informed, leadership and workforce trainings that are designed to support each participant's personal recovery from trauma as well as their future career and academic achievements. Their mission is to end neighborhood violence by empowering members to be effective change-makers, reclaim the identity of ones communities and restore a sense of hope and purpose for children. If you or someone you know need support contact Monalisa Smith, 617-516-8086, or visit their office at 184 Dudley Street, Suite 109, Boston. Their email is [info@mothersforjusticeandequality.org](mailto:info@mothersforjusticeandequality.org).

## **b. Operation L.I.P.S.T.I.C.K (Ladies Involved in Putting a Stop to Inner-City Killing)**

This is a groundbreaking program of peer-to-peer education developed by Citizens for Safety. They organize community and social service intervention to prevent women from being used to provide guns used in a crime. It's a program that women talk to women turning victims into activists, creates peer leaders, and gives women the support to say no to exploitation, and yes to a brighter and safer future. Also offered are workshops & outreach, peer leadership, mentoring, community organizing, and strength and support to women and young girls. Contact Nancy Robinson, Executive Director at 617-233-5363 or by email at [info@citizensforsafety.org](mailto:info@citizensforsafety.org). Their location is 31 Heath Street, suite 12, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.

### **N. Do you want to help make things better?**

If you would like to join other people in making improvements in policy for TAFDC, food stamps, emergency assistance (including family shelters), or housing, there are groups working on these issues who would love to have you join them. They are:

#### **1. The Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless**

It works on issues related to housing and homelessness. They also do advocacy for individuals and families who are at risk for or are experiencing homelessness. The Coalition holds monthly membership meetings in Boston. Contact Kelly Turley 781-595-7570, ext. 17 for more information.

#### **2. The Food Stamp Coalition**

It works on food stamp (now called SNAP) access barriers and a range of state and federal anti-hunger policy issues. They meet once a month in Boston. Contact Pat Baker at Mass Law Reform Institute, [pbaker@mlri.org](mailto:pbaker@mlri.org) or at 617-357-0700, ext. 328 for more information.

#### **3. The Welfare Coalition**

Contact Debra Harris at Mass Law Reform Institute, [dharris@mlri.org](mailto:dharris@mlri.org) or at 617-357-0700, ext. 313 for more information.



## Appendix A - Boston Food Pantry List

<b>Agency #</b>	509	1907	1114
<b>Name</b>	<b>APAC / Allston-Brighton</b>	<b>Haley House Food Pantry</b>	<b>Rosie's Place/Pantry</b>
<b>Street</b>	143 Harvard Ave	23 Dartmouth St	889 Harrison Ave
<b>City</b>	Allston	Boston	Boston
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 783-1485	(617) 236-8132	(617) 318-0236
<b>Days</b>	Mo; Tu; We; Th; Fr	Th	Mo
<b>Start Hours</b>	10:00 AM	10:30 AM	4:30 PM
<b>End Hours</b>	2:00 PM	11:30 AM	6:30 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	All	All
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	1114	1114	1290
<b>Name</b>	<b>Rosie's Place/Pantry</b>	<b>Rosie's Place/Pantry</b>	<b>USCCB/ The Paulist Center</b>
<b>Street</b>	889 Harrison Ave	889 Harrison Ave	5 Park St
<b>City</b>	Boston	Boston	Boston
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 318-0236	(617) 318-0236	(617) 948-2428
<b>Days</b>	Tu; Fr	Tu; Th	Tu
<b>Start Hours</b>	8:30 AM	4:30 PM	1:30 PM
<b>End Hours</b>	11:30 AM	6:30 PM	3:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	All	All
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	1467	1873	1906
<b>Name</b>	<b>Rice Sticks and Tea/Asian Food Pantry</b>	<b>ABCD N. End/W.End Pantry</b>	<b>Salvation Army/South End Food Pantry</b>
<b>Street</b>	351 Boylston St	1 Michelangelo St	1500 Washington St
<b>City</b>	Boston	Boston	Boston
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 239-0225	(617) 523-8125	(617) 236-7233
<b>Days</b>	Sa	Mo; Tu; We; Th; Fr	Mo; Tu; Th; Fr
<b>Start Hours</b>	7:30 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	9:15 AM	5:00 PM	11:30 AM
<b>Weeks</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	All	All
<b>Notes</b>			



<b>Agency #</b>	2083	25	116
<b>Name</b>	<b>St Anthony Shrine / Franciscan Food Center</b>	<b>Catholic Charities/El Centro del Cardena</b>	<b>Church of the Covenant</b>
<b>Street</b>	100 Arch St	Monsignor Reynolds Way	67 Newbury St
<b>City</b>	Boston	Boston	Boston
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 542-6440	(617) 335-0208	(617) 266-7480
<b>Days</b>	Th; Sa	Mo; Tu; Th	Sa; Su
<b>Start Hours</b>	10:00 AM	9:30 AM	10:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	12:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	All	All
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	261	631	751
<b>Name</b>	<b>Boston Medical Center Food Pantry</b>	<b>American Red Cross/Boston Pantry</b>	<b>Grant A.M.E./Self-Help</b>
<b>Street</b>	1 Boston Medical Ctr Yawkey B	1033 Massachusetts Ave	1906 Washington St
<b>City</b>	Boston	Boston	Boston
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 414-3834	(617) 274-5200	(857) 499-0526
<b>Days</b>	Mo; Tu; We; Th; Fr	We; Sa	Th
<b>Start Hours</b>	10:00 AM	9:00 AM	8:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	4:00 PM	12:00 PM	2:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	All	1st; 3rd
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	2091	2091	2347
<b>Name</b>	<b>ABCD/ West End Senior Center</b>	<b>ABCD/ West End Senior Center</b>	<b>Boston Dream Center</b>
<b>Street</b>	151 Cambridge St	151 Cambridge St	58 Winter St 6th Floor
<b>City</b>	Boston	Boston	Boston
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 670-1161	(617) 670-1161	(617) 350-5555
<b>Days</b>	Mo; We	Tu	By Appointment Only
<b>Start Hours</b>	11:30 AM	4:00 PM	See Notes
<b>End Hours</b>	1:30 PM	5:30 PM	See Notes
<b>Weeks</b>	All	All	All
<b>Notes</b>			Delivery Only to clients in transitional housing.

<b>Agency #</b>	322	2242	2242
<b>Name</b>	<b>Boston Rescue Mission / Pantry</b>	<b>ABCD/Allston Brighton</b>	<b>ABCD/Allston Brighton</b>
<b>Street</b>	39 Kingston St	640 Washington St Ste 203	640 Washington St Ste 203
<b>City</b>	Boston	Brighton	Brighton
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 338-9000	(617) 903-3640	(617) 903-3640
<b>Days</b>	Fr	Mo	Tu; We; Th; Fr
<b>Start Hours</b>	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	10:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	11:00 AM	4:00 PM	4:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	2nd; 4 <sup>th</sup>	All	All
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	681	1854	1854
<b>Name</b>	<b>MACCMS/ Allston-Brighton Food Pantry</b>	<b>The Harvest on Vine</b>	<b>The Harvest on Vine</b>
<b>Street</b>	404 Washington St	49 Vine St	49 Vine St
<b>City</b>	Brighton	Charlestown	Charlestown
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 254-4046	(617) 337-3545	(617) 337-3545
<b>Days</b>	Sa	Sa	Tu
<b>Start Hours</b>	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	7:00 PM
<b>End Hours</b>	1:00 PM	12:00 PM	8:30 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	2nd; 4 <sup>th</sup>	2nd	Last
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	1658	128	1531
<b>Name</b>	<b>Pilgrim Church Food Pantry</b>	<b>Holy Tabernacle Church</b>	<b>Greater Anointing Church Pantry</b>
<b>Street</b>	540 Columbia Rd	70 Washington St	20 Charlotte St
<b>City</b>	Dorchester	Dorchester	Dorchester
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 282-0456	(617) 427-8022	(781) 535-4837
<b>Days</b>	We	Fr	Sa
<b>Start Hours</b>	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	12:00 PM	3:00 PM	12:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	2nd; 4th	2nd
<b>Notes</b>	Referral from foodsource hotline	Closed 12PM to 1PM, 1pm to 3PM for Seniors ONLY.	

<b>Agency #</b>	1577	932	940
<b>Name</b>	<b>Glad Tidings Food Pantry</b>	<b>Zion Temple Church Food Pantry</b>	<b>HHS/Neponset Health Center Food Pantry</b>
<b>Street</b>	573 Norfolk St	79 Stanton St	398 Neponset Ave
<b>City</b>	Dorchester	Dorchester	Dorchester
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 296-6784	(617) 825-9165	(617) 282-3200
<b>Days</b>	Fr	Th; Fr	Tu
<b>Start Hours</b>	10:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	12:30 PM	12:00 PM	11:00 AM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	All	All
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	953	1119	1181
<b>Name</b>	<b>Emmanuel Temple Church Food Pantry</b>	<b>Grace Church of All Nations Pantry</b>	<b>CCAB/Yawkey Center</b>
<b>Street</b>	471 Warren St	451 Washington St	185 Columbia Rd
<b>City</b>	Dorchester	Dorchester	Dorchester
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 442-8500	(617) 825-6757	(617) 506-6600
<b>Days</b>	We	Tu; Th; Fr	Mo; Fr
<b>Start Hours</b>	2:00 PM	10:00 AM	9:30 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	3:30 PM	12:00 PM	12:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	All	All
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	1181	1184	2123
<b>Name</b>	<b>CCAB/Yawkey Center</b>	<b>Faith Pentecostal Church</b>	<b>CSNDC/Franklin Hill Food Pantry</b>
<b>Street</b>	185 Columbia Rd	301 Harvard St	1 Shandon Rd
<b>City</b>	Dorchester	Dorchester	Dorchester
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 506-6600	(617) 265-5700	(617) 474-7822
<b>Days</b>	Tu; We; Th	Fr	We
<b>Start Hours</b>	9:30 AM	1:00 PM	3:00 PM
<b>End Hours</b>	5:00 PM	3:00 PM	6:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	Every Other	2nd; 4th
<b>Notes</b>			

<b>Agency #</b>	2144	2144	7
<b>Name</b>	<b>USCCB/Blessed Mother Teresa Parish</b>	<b>USCCB/Blessed Mother Teresa Parish</b>	<b>Full Life Gospel Center</b>
<b>Street</b>	800 Columbia Rd	800 Columbia Rd	493 Washington St
<b>City</b>	Dorchester	Dorchester	Dorchester
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 436-2190	(617) 436-2190	(617) 288-3027
<b>Days</b>	Th	Sa	Fr
<b>Start Hours</b>	11:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	1:00 PM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	All	All
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	14	26	39
<b>Name</b>	<b>Salvation Army/Kroc Ctr Emerg Food Pntry</b>	<b>Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Ctr.</b>	<b>USCC/ St. Matthew's Church Food Pantry</b>
<b>Street</b>	650 Dudley St	895 Blue Hill Ave	33 Stanton St
<b>City</b>	Dorchester	Dorchester	Dorchester
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 318-6936	(617) 825-3400	(781) 646-0768
<b>Days</b>	Tu; We; Th	Mo; Tu; We; Th; Fr	Sa
<b>Start Hours</b>	9:30 AM	1:30 PM	9:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	11:30 AM	2:30 PM	12:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	All	All
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	61	449	455
<b>Name</b>	<b>ABCD Roxbury/N. Dorchester Neighborhood Opportunity Center</b>	<b>Charles Street A.M.E. Church</b>	<b>Berea Church Pantry</b>
<b>Street</b>	565 Warren St	551 Warren St	108 Seaver St
<b>City</b>	Dorchester	Dorchester	Dorchester
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 442-5900	(617) 442-7770	(617) 427-2201
<b>Days</b>	Mo; Tu; We; Th	Th	Th
<b>Start Hours</b>	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	9:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	3:00 PM	2:00 PM	11:30 AM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	1st; 3rd	1st; 3rd
<b>Notes</b>	Please call for an appointment. 617-442-5900		

<b>Agency #</b>	465	483	494
<b>Name</b>	<b>Bethel Tabernacle Pentecostal Church</b>	<b>St. Mary's Food Pantry</b>	<b>Codman Square Health Center</b>
<b>Street</b>	12 Bicknell St	14 Cushing Ave	378-A Washington St
<b>City</b>	Dorchester	Dorchester	Dorchester
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 282-5706	(617) 282-3181	(617) 825-9660
<b>Days</b>	Th	Tu	Tu
<b>Start Hours</b>	9:00 AM	9:30 AM	8:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	12:00 PM	11:30 AM	11:00 AM
<b>Weeks</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	All	All
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	560	587	587
<b>Name</b>	<b>Temple Salem SDA Church</b>	<b>Eglise Baptiste Haitienne</b>	<b>Eglise Baptiste Haitienne</b>
<b>Street</b>	222 Woodrow Ave	1 Dix St	1 Dix St
<b>City</b>	Dorchester	Dorchester	Dorchester
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 288-8845	(617) 287-8351	(617) 287-8351
<b>Days</b>	We	We	We
<b>Start Hours</b>	5:00 PM	4:30 AM	7:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	6:00 PM	12:00 PM	11:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	Every Other	1st	2nd
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	596	596	1177
<b>Name</b>	<b>Dorchester House</b>	<b>Dorchester House</b>	<b>Grace Federated Church/Emrg Food Cupboar</b>
<b>Street</b>	1353 Dorchester Ave	1353 Dorchester Ave	760 Saratoga St
<b>City</b>	Dorchester	Dorchester	East Boston
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 288-3230	(617) 288-3230	(617) 569-5358
<b>Days</b>	Tu	We	Sa
<b>Start Hours</b>	8:30 AM	8:00 AM	10:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	10:30 AM	10:00 AM	12:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	All	All
<b>Notes</b>	Tues - Elders, Wed - Gen. Public		Will give food out at any time to those in need.

<b>Agency #</b>	50	41	2295
<b>Name</b>	<b>Holy Redeemer Church/Our Daily Bread Pty</b>	<b>USCC/Hyde Park Food Pantry</b>	<b>Rehoboth Baptist Church of Boston</b>
<b>Street</b>	56 Havre St	1179 River St	931 Hyde Park Ave
<b>City</b>	East Boston	Hyde Park	Hyde Park
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 567-5926	(617) 637-7413	(857) 413-0490
<b>Days</b>	We; Su	Tu; Th	Sa
<b>Start Hours</b>	3:00 PM	9:30 AM	12:00 PM
<b>End Hours</b>	4:00 PM	12:30 PM	2:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	All	2nd; 4th
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	2209	28	2166
<b>Name</b>	<b>SVDP/Our Lady of Lourdes</b>	<b>ABCD/Jamaica Plain Pantry</b>	<b>Voice of Tabernacle Multiservice Center</b>
<b>Street</b>	54 Brookside Ave	30 Bickford St	47-49 Edgewater Dr
<b>City</b>	Jamaica Plain	Jamaica Plain	Mattapan
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 524-0240	(617) 522-4830	(617) 615-8185
<b>Days</b>	Mo	Th; Fr	Fr
<b>Start Hours</b>	6:30 PM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	8:00 PM	4:00 PM	1:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	All	All
<b>Notes</b>	*except on Monday Holidays; postponed to following Tu		
<b>Agency #</b>	1523	1530	1639
<b>Name</b>	<b>Haitian American Public Hlth Initiatives</b>	<b>BMC/Healthy Baby, Healthy Child</b>	<b>Greater Boston Nazarene Compassion. Ctr.</b>
<b>Street</b>	1603 Blue Hill Ave	213 River St	130 River St
<b>City</b>	Mattapan	Mattapan	Mattapan
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 298-8076	(617) 534-2032	(617) 296-7450
<b>Days</b>	Fr	Mo; We; Fr	We; Fr
<b>Start Hours</b>	9:30 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	12:00 PM	3:00 PM	1:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	2nd; 4 <sup>th</sup>	All	All
<b>Notes</b>	Plus Emergency		Clients are welcome once per week

<b>Agency #</b>	2355	291	2304
<b>Name</b>	<b>Tabernacle Baptist Church</b>	<b>Roslindale Food Pantry</b>	<b>Boston Missionary Baptist Community Center, Inc</b>
<b>Street</b>	575 American Legion Highway	25 Cummins Highway	336 Dudley St
<b>City</b>	Roslindale	Roslindale	Roxbury
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 323-3107	(617) 325-9755	(617) 427-4448
<b>Days</b>	Sa	Tu; Sa	Sa
<b>Start Hours</b>	10:30 AM	3:00 PM	2:00 PM
<b>End Hours</b>	11:30 AM	5:00 PM	4:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	1st; 3 <sup>rd</sup>	All	All
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	1510	1758	1244
<b>Name</b>	<b>ABCD/South End Neighborhood Action Prgrm</b>	<b>Omega Men in Action</b>	<b>Twelfth Baptist Church Food Pantry</b>
<b>Street</b>	554 Columbus Ave	32-34 Linwood St	160 Warren St
<b>City</b>	Roxbury	Roxbury	Roxbury
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 267-7400	(617) 708-0741	(617) 442-7855
<b>Days</b>	Mo; Tu; We; Th; Fr	Sa	Tu
<b>Start Hours</b>	1:00 PM	11:00 AM	12:00 PM
<b>End Hours</b>	3:00 PM	1:00 PM	1:30 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	Last	All
<b>Notes</b>	For July and August the pantry is open from 1:00 to 3:00 Monday through Friday.	Last Sat of each mo. except Nov and Dec when it's the last Sat before a holiday	
<b>Agency #</b>	1980	2230	4
<b>Name</b>	<b>USCC/St. Mary of the Angels Food Pantry</b>	<b>Islamic Multi Service Organization</b>	<b>Church of God of Prophecy/Roxbury</b>
<b>Street</b>	377 Walnut Ave	722 Shawmut Ave	270 Warren St
<b>City</b>	Roxbury	Roxbury	Roxbury
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 833-1898	(617) 442-2805	(617) 427-7766
<b>Days</b>	We	Su	Mo
<b>Start Hours</b>	5:00 PM	2:00 PM	8:30 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	6:30 PM	3:00 PM	11:30 AM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	2nd	2nd; 4th
<b>Notes</b>			

<b>Agency #</b>	35	42	179
<b>Name</b>	<b>Union United Methodist Church Food Pntry</b>	<b>ABCD/Parker Hill Fenway Nghbrhd Svc Ctr.</b>	<b>Grace and Hope Mission Food Pantry</b>
<b>Street</b>	485 Columbus Ave	714 Parker St	1900 Columbus Ave
<b>City</b>	Roxbury	Roxbury	Roxbury
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 287-1020	(617) 445-6000	(617) 442-7579
<b>Days</b>	Tu	Th; Fr	Tu; Th
<b>Start Hours</b>	10:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	12:45 PM	2:00 PM	12:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	All	All
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	354	394	433
<b>Name</b>	<b>United Emmanuel Holiness Church</b>	<b>Resurrection Lutheran Church</b>	<b>ABC/ People's Baptist Church Food Pantry</b>
<b>Street</b>	65 Windsor St	94 Warren St	134 Camden St
<b>City</b>	Roxbury	Roxbury	Roxbury
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 442-4183	(617) 427-2066	(617) 427-0424
<b>Days</b>	Sa	Sa	We
<b>Start Hours</b>	9:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	1:00 PM	12:00 PM	12:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	2nd	3rd
<b>Notes</b>		Per email from Michel, agency had to cut back distribution to once per month due to financial constraints and will, at least temporarily, no longer be distributing on the 4th Saturday of the month. -DJ 2/3/2016	Monday thru Friday for emergencies only 9-2pm. We on third week of the month is their Main Distribution.



<b>Agency #</b>	437	155	42
<b>Name</b>	<b>USCC/Warwick House-St Katherine Drexel</b>	<b>Eliot Congregational Church Food Pantry</b>	<b>ABCD/Parker Hill Fenway Nghbrhd Svc Ctr.</b>
<b>Street</b>	175 Ruggles St	56 Dale St	714 Parker St
<b>City</b>	Roxbury	Roxbury	Roxbury
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 442-8890	(617) 445-7525	(617) 445-6000
<b>Days</b>	Th	Th	Mo
<b>Start Hours</b>	7:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	2:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	2nd; 4th	All
<b>Notes</b>			
<b>Agency #</b>	1510	334	2082
<b>Name</b>	<b>ABCD/South End Neighborhood Action Prgrm</b>	<b>St. Augustine's Food Pantry</b>	<b>South Boston Community Health Center</b>
<b>Street</b>	554 Columbus Ave	331 Old Colony Ave	409 W Broadway
<b>City</b>	Roxbury	South Boston	South Boston
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 267-7400	(617) 268-1230	(617) 269-7500
<b>Days</b>	Mo; Tu; We; Th; Fr	We	Tu; We
<b>Start Hours</b>	10:00 AM	12:30 PM	10:00 AM
<b>End Hours</b>	2:00 PM	2:00 PM	2:00 PM
<b>Weeks</b>	All	2nd; 4th	All
<b>Notes</b>	September through June the pantry is open Monday through Friday from 10:00 to 2:00.		
<b>Agency #</b>	345	743	
<b>Name</b>	<b>USCC/SVDP Parish</b>	<b>TTGAOP/Fourth Church Food Pantry</b>	
<b>Street</b>	363 E St	340 Dorchester St	
<b>City</b>	South Boston	South Boston	
<b>Phone</b>	(617) 268-8100	(617) 268-1281	
<b>Days</b>	Th	Tu	
<b>Start Hours</b>	1:00 PM	8:00 AM	
<b>End Hours</b>	3:00 PM	11:00 AM	
<b>Weeks</b>	All	2nd; 4th	
<b>Notes</b>		During the month of July this agency is only open on an emergency basis.	

## Appendix B - \$2 Bag Sites



*Current as of September 2016*

### \$2 BAG SITES Boston Metro Region



#### CAMBRIDGE

- ❖ **St. Paul's Church**  
29 Mt. Auburn St.  
(Near Harvard Sq. Red Line)  
**Saturdays 11:00 - 11:30AM**

#### CHARLESTOWN

- ❖ **The Kennedy Center**  
55 Bunker Hill St.  
**Thursdays 2:00-4:00 PM**

#### EAST BOSTON

- ❖ **East Boston Neighborhood HC**  
120 Liverpool St.  
**3rd Fridays 2:30-4:00 PM**

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#### DORCHESTER

- ❖ **Franklin Field Senior Center**  
100 Ames St.  
(Off Westview St.)  
**Thursdays 4:30-5:30 PM**
- ❖ **Annapolis Development**  
52 Sumner St. Inside  
**2nd Thurs of Mo. 12:00-1:00 PM**
- ❖ **Codman Sq.Global Ministries**  
Washington St. and Euclid St.  
Parking Lot across from brown church  
**Saturdays 1:30 - 5:30PM**

#### *FIELD'S CORNER*

- ❖ **First Parish Church**  
10 Parish St.  
Meetinghouse Hill  
(Next to Mather School)  
**Fridays 3:30 -5:00 PM**

- ❖ **Bellflower Apartments**  
24 Bellflower St.  
(17 Bus from Andrew)  
**Alt. Fridays 1:00-2:00 PM**  
**From Sept. 9**
- ❖ **Upham's Corner Health Center**  
415 Columbia Rd  
**1st and 3rd Thurs. 2:00-4:00 PM**
- ❖ **Columbia Rd. Properties**  
414 Columbia Rd.  
Alt. Wed. 1:00 - 3:00  
**From Sept. 14**

- ❖ **Lena Park Comm. Center**  
150 American Legion Hwy  
**Tuesdays 3:00 -5:00 PM**

- ❖ **Peabody Englewood Apt.**  
1875 Dorchester Ave.  
**Alt. Tues. 3:00-5:00 PM**  
**From Sept. 6**
- ❖ **Elmhurst Street**  
Next to Elmhurst Park  
**Tuesdays 4:30-6:00 PM**
- ❖ **Lower Mills Apartments**  
2262 Dorchester Ave.  
**Alt. Wed. 3:00 – 4:00 PM**  
**From Sept. 14**

- ❖ **Bethel Hispanic 7th Day Church**  
1 Dix St.  
(at corner of Dorchester Ave) **Thursdays 3:00-4:00 PM**
-

## JAMAICA PLAIN

❖ **Brookside Health Ctr.**  
3297 Washington St.  
**4th Thurs. 12:00 – 1:00 PM**  
**From Sept. 16**

❖ **Amory St. Building**  
125 Amory St.  
(22 Bus toward Ruggles)  
**2nd and 4th Thurs. 3:00 – 4:00 PM**

❖ **Martha Elliot Health Ctr.**  
75 Centre St.  
**Alt. Fridays 12:00 – 1:00 PM**  
**From Sept. 16**

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## MATTAPAN

❖ **Simco's on the Bridge**  
1500 Blue Hill Ave  
(Jubilee Church)  
**Saturdays 4:00- 5:30 PM**

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## PARKER HILL

❖ **La Alianza Hispana**  
63 Parker Hill Ave.  
**Alt. Weds. 11:00-12:00 PM**  
**From Sept. 7**

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## REVERE

❖ **1st Baptist Church**  
209 Beach St.  
**2nd and 4th Saturday 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

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## ROSLINDALE SQ.

❖ **ABCD Headstart**  
Behind 19 Corinth St at Cohasset St.  
**Alt Wed. 3:00-4:00**  
**From Sept. 14**

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## ROXBURY

❖ **First Church of Roxbury**  
10 Putnam St.  
**Saturdays 10:00 - 2:00PM**

❖ **Salvation Army**  
23 Vernon St.  
**Tuesdays. 2:30 - 3:30PM**

❖ **Walnut Park Apt.**  
1990 Columbus Ave.  
**Saturdays 11:00 - 2:30 PM**

❖ **Whittier Street Health Center**  
1290 Tremont Street  
2nd flr. in Community Room  
**Alt. Tues. 1:00 – 2:00 PM**  
**From Sept. 13**

❖ **Roxbury Tenants**  
805 Huntington Ave.  
**4th Fridays 3:00 – 4:00 PM**

❖ **Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral**  
165 Park Drive  
(Enter back parking lot)  
**Alt. Weds. 3:00 – 5:00 PM**  
**From Sept. 7**

❖ **Tobin Community Center**  
1481 Tremont St.  
(In Front Lobby)  
**Wednesdays 4:30 - 5:30 PM**

❖ **Yawkey Boys & Girls Club**  
115 Warren St.  
(in front lobby)  
**Tuesdays 4:30 - 5:30 PM**

❖ **Whittier St Apartments**  
180 Ruggles St  
(Across Tremont St. from Ruggles Orange line)  
**Thursdays 4:00 - 5:00 PM**

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## SOMERVILLE

- ❖ **Cobble Hill Apts**  
near Sullivan Sq.  
74 Washington St  
(Back parking lot)  
**Alt. Wed. 1:00 – 2:30 PM**  
**From Sept. 7**

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## SOUTH BOSTON

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>❖ <b><u>West Broadway Task Force</u></b><br/>115 Orton Marotta Way<br/>Between C &amp; D Streets<br/>(Near Broadway Red Line)<br/>Inside Task Force building<br/><b>Tuesdays 1:30 - 2:30 PM</b></p> | <p>❖ <b><u>McCormack Task Force</u></b><br/>345 Old Colony Ave.<br/>Next to St. Monica's Church<br/>(Near Andrew Red Line)<br/>Inside Task Force building<br/><b>Fridays 2:30 - 3:30 PM</b></p> |
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## SOUTH END

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p>❖ <b><u>Villa Victoria</u></b><br/>Plaza Betances at<br/>100 W. Dedham Street<br/><b>Tuesdays 1:30 - 3:00 PM</b></p> | <p>❖ <b><u>Harriet Tubman House</u></b><br/>566 Columbus Ave.<br/><b>3rd Thurs. 12:00 -1:00 PM</b></p> | <p>❖ <b><u>St. Botolph House</u></b><br/>70 St. Botolph St.<br/><b>Thursday 1:00 - 2:00 PM</b></p> |
|---|--|--|

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## WEST QUINCY

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>❖ <b><u>Morisette Legion Post</u></b><br/>84 Liberty St.<br/>(off Copeland St.)<br/><b>Alt. Wed. 4:30 - 5:30PM</b><br/><b>From Sept. 7</b></p> | <p>❖ <b><u>Bethel Church of the Nazarene</u></b><br/>41 Empire St.<br/>Germantown, Quincy<br/><b>Alt. Wed. 6:00 - 8:00PM</b><br/><b>From Sept. 7</b></p> |
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*Look for our signs!*

**How Dollar-a-Bag Works:**

- *Bring your own bags and any extras!*
- *If we're late, please wait. We're old women & old trucks!*
- *Wonderful vegetables, fruits and assortment of other products!*
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- *Visit Dollar-a-Bag sites often. New products are offered daily!*
- *Volunteers always needed to unload, pack and clean up!*

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## Appendix C - Free and Low-Cost Legal Help by Area

### MASSACHUSETTS STATEWIDE

- ❖ **Legal Advocacy and Resource Center (LARC) Hotline**  
Provides a free legal hotline to all low income Massachusetts residents.  
**Phone:** (800) 342-5297

### ATTLEBORO

- ❖ **Southeastern Mass Legal Services Corp.**  
**Address:** 247 Maple Street, Attleboro, MA 02703  
**Phone:** (508) 676-5022

### BOSTON

- ❖ **Asian Outreach Program**  
**Phone:** (617) 371-1270 x 324
- ❖ **Greater Boston Legal Services**  
**Address:** 197 Friend Street, Boston, MA 02114  
**Phone:** (617) 371-1234  
**Phone:** (800) 323-3205
- ❖ **Massachusetts Correctional Legal Services, Inc.**  
**Address:** Eight Winter Street, 11th Floor, Boston, MA 02108  
**Phone:** (617) 482-2773  
**Phone:** (800) 882-1413  
**Phone:** (617) 482-4124 (collect calls from Massachusetts prisoners)
- ❖ **New Center for Legal Advocacy (NCLA)**  
**Phone:** (508) 676-6264 (for greater Fall River)  
**Phone:** (508) 996-8576 (local number for greater New Bedford)  
**Phone:** (508) 824-0888 (greater Taunton)  
**Phone:** (508) 586-8393 (greater Brockton)  
**Phone:** (508) 226-7678 (Attleboro)
- ❖ **Victim Advocacy Program Volunteer Lawyer's Program**  
**Address:** 99 Chauncy St., 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02111  
**Phone:** (617) 880-7100  
**Phone:** (617) 423-648  
**Phone:** (617) 338-6790 (TDD)

### BROCKTON

- ❖ **Southeastern Mass Legal Services Corp.**  
**Address:** 231 Main Street, Suite 201, Brockton, MA 02401  
**Phone:** (508) 586-8393  
**Phone:** (800) 244-9023

## **CAMBRIDGE**

- ❖ **Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services (CASLS)**  
**Address:** 60 Gore Street, Suite 3, Cambridge, MA 02141  
**Phone:** (617) 603-2700

- ❖ **Community Legal Services and Counseling Center**  
**Address:** One West Street, Cambridge, MA 02139  
**Phone:** (617) 661-1010

## **FALL RIVER**

- ❖ **Southeastern Mass Legal Services Corp.**  
**Address:** 22 Bedford Street, 1st Floor, Fall River, MA 02720  
**Phone:** (508) 676-6265  
**Phone:** (800) 287-3777

## **FRAMINGHAM**

- ❖ **South Middlesex Legal Services (SMLS)**  
**Address:** 354 Waverly Street, Framingham, MA 01702-7059  
**Phone:** (508) 620-1830 (voice and TTY/TDD)  
**Phone:** (800) 696-1501 (voice and TTY/TDD)

## **GREENFIELD**

- ❖ **Western Mass Legal Services**  
**Address:** 55 Federal Street, Greenfield, MA 01301  
**Phone:** (413) 774-3747

## **HOLYOKE**

- ❖ **Massachusetts Justice Legal Project**  
**Address:** 57 Suffolk Street, 4th Floor, Suite 401, Holyoke, MA 01040  
**Phone:** (800) 639-1209  
**Phone:** (413) 533-2660 (voice and TDD)

## **HYANNIS**

- ❖ **Legal Services for Cape Cod and Islands (LSCCI)**  
**Address:** 460 West Main Street, Hyannis, MA 02601  
**Phone:** (800) 742-4107  
**Phone:** (508) 775-7020 (voice and TDD)

## **JAMAICA PLAIN**

### ❖ **Hale and Dorr Legal Services Center**

**Address:** 122 Boylston Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

**Phone:** (617) 522-3003

**Phone:** (617) 522-3575

## **LAWRENCE**

### ❖ **Merrimack Valley Legal Services**

**Address:** 170 Common Street, Suite 303, Lawrence, MA 01840-1507

**Phone:** (978) 687-1177

**Phone:** (800) 427-2521

**Phone:** (978) 689-7275 (TDD)

### ❖ **Neighborhood Legal Services**

**Address:** 170 Common Street, Suite 300, Lawrence, MA 01840

**Phone:** (978) 686-6900

## **LOWELL**

### ❖ **Merrimack Valley Legal Services**

**Address:** 35 John Street, Suite 302, Lowell, MA 01852-1101

**Phone:** (978) 458-1465

**Phone:** (800) 336-2262

**Phone:** (978) 452-4740 (TDD)

## **LYNN**

### ❖ **Children's Law Center of Massachusetts, Inc.**

**Address:** PO Box 710, 298 Union Street, Lynn, MA 01903

**Phone:** (781) 581-1977

### ❖ **Neighborhood Legal Services**

**Address:** 37 Friend Street, Lynn, MA 01902

**Phone:** (781) 599-7730

**Phone:** (781) 599-7730

## **NEW BEDFORD**

### ❖ **Free Legal Aid Massachusetts**

### ❖ **New Center for Legal Advocacy (NCLA)**

**Address:** 257 Union Street, New Bedford, MA 02740

**Phone:** (800) 244-9023

**Phone:** (508) 990-7755

### ❖ **Southeastern Mass Legal Services Corp.**

**Address:** 21 South Sixth Street, New Bedford, MA 02740

**Phone:** (508) 979-7150

**Phone:** (508) 979-7150



## **NORTH ADAMS**

### ❖ **Western Mass Legal Services**

**Address:** 85 Main Street, North Adams, MA 01247

**Phone:** (413) 664-4531

## **NORTHAMPTON**

### ❖ **Western Mass Legal Services**

**Address:** 20 Hampton Avenue, Suite 100, Northampton, MA 01060

**Phone:** (413) 584-4034

**Phone:** (800) 639-1309

## **PITTSFIELD**

### ❖ **Western Mass Legal Services**

**Address:** 152 North Street, E-155, Pittsfield, MA 01201

**Phone:** (413) 499-1950

**Phone:** (800) 639-1509

## **PLYMOUTH**

### ❖ **Legal Services for Cape Cod and Islands (LSCCI)**

**Address:** 18 Main Street Extension, Plymouth, MA 02360

**Phone:** (800) 585-4933

**Phone:** (508) 746-2777 (voice and TDD)

## **SALEM**

### ❖ **Essex County Family Legal Aid Project**

**Address:** 70 Washington Street, Suite 220, Salem, MA 01970

**Phone:** (978) 740-6688

**Phone:** (888) 835-4300

## **SPRINGFIELD**

### ❖ **Western Mass Legal Services**

**Address:** 127 State Street, 4th Floor, Springfield, MA 01103

**Phone:** (413) 781-7814

**Phone:** (800) 639-1109

## **TAUNTON**

❖ **Southeastern Mass Legal Services Corp.**

**Address:** 71 Main Street, Suite 2400, Taunton, MA 02780

**Phone:** (508) 880-6704

## **WALTHAM**

❖ **Boston College Legal Assist.**

**Address:** 24 Crescent Street, Suite 202, Waltham, MA 02453

**Phone:** (781) 893-4793

**Phone:** (781) 736-9006

## **WORCESTER**

❖ **Legal Assistance Corporation of Central MA**

**Address:** 405 Main Street, 4th floor, Worcester, MA 01608

**Phone:** (508) 752-3718

**Phone:** (508) 755-3260

**(TDD) Phone:** (800) 649-3718

❖ **Massachusetts Justice Legal Project**

**Address:** 405 Main Street, Suite 300, Worcester, MA 01068

**Phone:** (508) 831-9888

**Phone:** (888) 427-8989

## **Appendix D - Christmas Gifts Resources for Kids**

1. **Christmas in the City** – organized by the Kennedy Brothers located at 45 Franklin Street, Boston 02112. Their contact is 617-651-2482 or email them at [info@christmasinthecity.org](mailto:info@christmasinthecity.org).
2. **Boston Police Department** – call your local BPD office and ask for Community Services.
3. **The Greg Hill Foundation Christmas Toy Giveaway** located at 800 West Cummings Park, Suite 3700 in Woburn 01801 or email to [info@thegreghillfoundation.org](mailto:info@thegreghillfoundation.org).
4. **ABCD** (Action for Boston Community Development) located at 178 Tremont Street in Boston 02112. Contact Josh Young, Community Coordinator at 617-348-6553 or by email at [josh.young@bostonabcd.org](mailto:josh.young@bostonabcd.org).
5. **City of Boston** for local city toy drives in your community by calling 617-635-4500 or visit City Hall at 1 City Hall Square.