

COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE

COVID-19 RESOURCES AND ASSISTANCE

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - MARYLAND HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND (HAF)	Homeowners who are struggling to keep up with their mortgage payments or other housing costs due to COVID-19 related financial hardships should know that assistance is on the way. The Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development will be launching The Maryland Homeowner Assistance Fund in late 2021 to assist homeowners statewide. To learn more, please visit: https://dhcd.maryland.gov/Residents/Pages/HomeownerAssistanceFund.aspx. Need help applying or navigating the application portal? Call 833-676-0119, Mon-Fri 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sat 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. To be connected to housing counseling and legal services, call 1-877-462-7555 or see Participating Housing Counseling and Legal Services Agencies to find an agency that can work with you to access relief.
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FEMA COVID-19 FUNERAL ASSISTANCE	Under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, FEMA is providing financial assistance for COVID-19 related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020. HOW TO APPLY? <i>Applications begin on April 12, 2021</i> COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Line Number: 844-684-6333 TTY: 800-462-7585 Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Time Call this dedicated toll-free phone number to get a COVID-19 Funeral Assistance application completed with help from FEMA's representatives. Multilingual services will be available. Get answers to frequently asked questions about the application process on FEMA's Funeral Assistance FAQ page.
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HOUSING RESOURCES

Housing Initiative Partnership, Inc. (HIP)	Housing Initiative Partnership, Inc. (HIP) is an innovative, green nonprofit housing developer and counseling agency based in Prince George's County, Maryland dedicated to revitalizing neighborhoods.
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	HIP creates housing and economic security for low- and moderate-income households in Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties, and provides services that improve the quality of life in the communities they serve across Maryland. HIP can also help you apply for the HAF – Maryland Homeowner Assistance Fund. FOR MORE INFORMATION or to obtain housing and rental support/assistance: HYATTSVILLE 6525 Belcrest Road, Suite 555 Hyattsville, MD 20782 301-699-3835 GERMANTOWN Upcounty Regional Services Center 12900 Middlebrook Road, Suite 1500 Germantown, MD 20874 301-916-5946
Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)– Maryland WholeHome Program	The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development can help you make valuable repairs and enhancements to your home that lower your family’s monthly utility bills and improve your quality of life. Maryland WholeHome grants and loans can be used to upgrade to energy efficient appliances, repair or replace heating and cooling systems, replace insulation, add accessibility features for seniors or those with special needs, remove lead paint, upgrade plumbing, and address structural and maintenance issues. FOR MORE INFORMATION https://dhcd.maryland.gov/residents/pages/wholehome.aspx Call 301-429-7409 or toll-free 1-844-369-4150 to start your application.
EMERGENCY AND UTILITY ASSISTANCE	
2-1-1 MARYLAND	What is 2-1-1 Maryland? 2-1-1 Maryland is a simple, memorable phone number for Maryland residents to connect with essential resources throughout the state. 2-1-1 Maryland is a free and confidential service that provides individuals simple access to health and human services agency phone numbers, websites and community resources.

	English and Spanish-speaking resources are available 24/7, 365 days. Translation is also available in 150+ languages. How can 2-1-1 Maryland help me? 2-1-1 Maryland will connect you to health and human service resources in your community that can help with the following needs: • Food • Housing and shelter • Emergency shelter • Utility assistance • Financial assistance • Mental health • Substance abuse • Suicide and crisis intervention • COVID-19 testing • Healthcare • Children and families (child care, parenting support, supplies and clothing and school readiness) • Aging and disability • Legal services • Tax prep information • Veterans • Domestic violence • Employment • Transportation How can I obtain help from 2-1-1 Maryland? • Dialing 2-1-1 from any phone • Texting your zip code to 898-211 • Web chat • Searching the 211 Maryland database • Visiting https://www.211md.org
MONTGOMERY COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	Emergency assistance is available to Montgomery County residents. The Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) and Temporary Disability Assistance Program (TDAP) program provides benefits, cash assistance and employment resources to individuals with low income or disabilities. <i>Continued on page 4</i> HOW TO APPLY?

	1. Download the DHHS TCA orientation packet. For assistance or if you have questions completing the packet, call 301-740-7714. You can submit the packet three ways: 2. Send to EmploymentServices@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov ; 3. Fax to 240-777-1342; or 4. Please use drop box to leave TCA orientation packets at 7300 Calhoun Drive, Suite 700, Rockville MD 20855 FOR MORE INFORMATION • Dial 3-1-1 • To learn more about eligibility requirements and to apply visit MyDHR. • For COVID-19 services changes and updates visit: https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS-Program/CYF/CYFPubA-TCA-TDAP-p346.html#Eligibility									
MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RESOURCES LISTING – BY ZIP CODE	A guide for use by Montgomery County residents who need cash assistance to avoid loss of housing, utilities or other emergency situations. For more information and to locate resources available by zip code visit: https://www.infomontgomery.org/wp-content/uploads/EFA-Resource-Listing-6-2020.pdf									
MONTGOMERY COUNTY MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE – FOR RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK AND CITY OF ROCKVILLE	Customers residing in the City of Takoma Park and the City of Rockville in need of financial assistance for housing/eviction prevention, utilities and prescription drugs, see the contact information below: <table><tr><th>Municipality</th><th>Phone</th><th>Agency Administering Emergency Financial Assistance</th></tr><tr><td>City of Takoma Park</td><td>301-891-7222</td><td>Housing and Community Development</td></tr><tr><td>City of Rockville</td><td>240-777-4550</td><td>Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services</td></tr></table>	Municipality	Phone	Agency Administering Emergency Financial Assistance	City of Takoma Park	301-891-7222	Housing and Community Development	City of Rockville	240-777-4550	Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services
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PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	The Prince George’s County Department of Social Services (DSS) is dedicated to helping low-income families and individuals living in Prince George’s County move to income independence through the Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) program. Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) provides cash assistance to needy families with dependent children when available resources do not fully address the family's needs, and while preparing program participants for independence through work. Families with minor children can receive TCA for a total of 60 months (5 years) over a lifetime. Sanctions may be imposed for not complying with program requirements. Eligibility The program has a requirement for all work eligible applicants to seek employment and participate fully in work requirement activities from the day they apply for benefits. Additionally, all applicants must document cooperation with child support and compliance with substance abuse provisions. Interpretation Services Interpretation Services are available free of charge for limited English proficiency customers. Please contact one of the Local Offices for assistance. FOR MORE INFORMATION • Dial 3-1-1 • To find out if you qualify for this program, you may apply online at My DHR or visit one of the Local Offices. • For COVID-19 services changes and updates visit: https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1719/Temporary-Cash-Assistance-Program
UTILITY ASSISTANCE: MARYLAND OFFICE OF HOME ENERGY PROGRAMS	The Office of Home Energy Programs (OHEP) provides bill assistance to low-income households in the State of Maryland to make their energy costs more affordable and to help with the prevention of loss and the restoration of home energy service. Energy assistance will not reduce the amount of any other public assistance benefits you receive, such as TCA or Food Stamps. Nor will it reduce Social Security benefits. OHEP will not count 2020 CARES Act federal assistance as part of your monthly household income. If you received assistance through the 2020 CARES Act in the form of an Individual Rebate, Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, Pandemic Unemployment Compensation, or Pandemic Emergency Unemployment

Compensation, these dollars do not count toward your gross monthly income calculation. Regular unemployment compensation will be included in the calculation of gross income.

Energy Assistance is a year-round program and you can apply at any time during the year, but you can only receive benefits **once each year** and **MUST reapply each fiscal year** (July- June).

Income Eligibility Limits

Effective July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

For households with <u>one or more members 67 years of age</u> or older at the time of application.	
HOUSEHOLD SIZE	MAXIMUM MONTHLY INCOME STANDARDS
1	\$2,147
2	\$2,903
3	\$3,660
4	\$4,417
5	\$5,173
6	\$5,930
7	\$6,687
8	\$7,443
For each additional person, add:	\$757

For households with <u>no members 67 years of age</u> or older at the time of application.	
HOUSEHOLD SIZE	MAXIMUM MONTHLY INCOME STANDARDS
1	\$1,878
2	\$2,540
3	\$3,203
4	\$3,865
5	\$4,527
6	\$5,189
7	\$5,851
8	\$6,513
For each additional person, add:	\$662

MARYLAND ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MEAP)

MEAP is an energy assistance program that helps OHEP income eligible households pay their heating bills, and at times, with their cooling bills. The program is available to households that heat with electricity, gas, oil, propane, wood, or other sources. Grant amounts vary depending on house-hold size, household income, and heating source.

ELECTRIC UNIVERSAL SERVICE PROGRAM (EUSP)

EUSP is a program that helps OHEP income eligible electricity customers pay their electricity bills. The program includes a Bill Payment Assistance grant and an Electric Arrearage Retirement Assistance (EARA) grant.

- **The Bill Payment Assistance grant** is for current bills and is spread out evenly over a 12-month period. Bill Payment Assistance requires customers to enroll in Budget Billing.
- **The EARA grant** is used for past due bills and can be up to \$2,000 once every seven years.

Customers may apply for energy assistance benefits through any one of the following methods:

- 1) **ONLINE:** You can apply online by visiting:
<https://mydhrbenefits.dhr.state.md.us>
- 2) **DROP BOXES:** Energy Assistance offices have secure drop boxes to receive your application and documents.
 - First, download and print the [Application for Energy Assistance](#). You can also request a paper application by calling **1-800-332-6347**.
 - Next, complete your application and gather your documents. You can find a list of documents that you should include in your application on page one (1) of the [Application for Energy Assistance](#).
 - Once you have your completed application and documents, take them to your local office's drop box and submit them.
- 3) **MAIL-IN APPLICATIONS:** To apply by mail, you can request an application be mailed to you, or print a copy of the application and mail it, along with all of your documents to your local Energy Assistance office. To see a full list of locations please visit:
<https://dhs.maryland.gov/office-of-home-energy-programs/local-home-energy-program-office/>
- 4) **TELEPHONE:** Energy Assistance offices can accept applications over the phone. Please call **1-800-332-6347** for more information.
- 5) **IN-PERSON:** Since many OHEP offices also process applications for other social services programs (Food Stamps, TCA, etc.), it may take a while to get an in-person appointment. However, due to local COVID-19 restrictions, some offices are not offering appointments. Call your [local office](#) to see if they are scheduling appointments.

HEATING ASSISTANCE	Founded by Washington Gas, The Washington Area Fuel Fund (WAFF) helps families who do not qualify for, or who have exhausted, government energy assistance. WAFF pays for <u>all types of fuel</u> to heat families' homes during the winter season. WAFF is administered by The Salvation Army. https://www.washingtonareafuelfund.org The Salvation Army – Prince George's County: 301-277-6103 The Salvation Army – Montgomery County: 301- 515-5354
CATHOLIC CHARITIES - EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE	Catholic Charities assists individuals and families in need, especially those who are most vulnerable. Services are open to everyone and include: • Emergency Help • Food Support • Housing and Shelter Programs • Healthcare Programs • Immigration and Refugee Services • Utility Assistance (Montgomery County) FOR MORE INFORMATION Please visit the Get Help section to gain access to all programs and learn in-depth about individual missions. • Montgomery County: Catholic Charities Center, 301-942-1790 • Prince George's County: Susan Denison Mona Center, Temple Hills, 301- 615-0940 Magnolia Center at Doctors Community Hospital, 301-731-4703
MISSION OF LOVE CHARITIES, INC.	Mission of Love Charities (MOLC), Inc. is a non-profit organization that provides help to homeless and low-income individuals and families in Prince George's County and nearby communities. MOLC offers utility, rental and security deposits assistance to homeless and low-income individuals and families. Under this program MOLC offers crisis assistance to prevent eviction and homelessness. Each case is reviewed and help is assessed based on need and the severity of the case. MOLC also assists Prince George's County residents with the Prince George's County Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) application process (when the program application period is open). MOLC partners with the Department of Social Services in Prince George's County to help low-income and homeless individuals and families get access to needed resources and services.

	• A food pantry is open Monday-Friday, 9am – 4pm and provides free groceries for homeless and low-income individuals. • MOLC also helps individuals and families stretch their limited incomes by providing donated household amenities, as well as utility, housing rental and Security Deposit assistance, as well as employability training and mental health referrals. Furniture donations have been discontinued due to COVID. FOR MORE INFORMATION Office and Warehouse: 6180 Old Central Ave. Capitol Heights, MD 20743 Call-In Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30am to 4pm 301-333-4440 Hours of Operation: Rental Assistance / Snap: Monday – Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm Food Pantry: Monday – Friday 9:00am to 3:30pm
UNITED COMMUNITIES AGAINST POVERTY (UCAP) EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE	United Communities Against Poverty (UCAP) provides low-income families living in permanent housing links to supportive services in the community. UCAP's Rent & Eviction Program provides rental assistance to residents of Prince George's County. http://ucappgc.org 301-322-5700
LAUREL ADVOCACY AND REFERRAL SERVICES – EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE	Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services (LARS) has an Emergency Services Program that provides low-income families and individuals residing in the Greater Laurel area (zip codes 20707, 20708, 20723 and 20724) with assistance to help with utility bills and other needs. http://laureladvocacy.org 301-776-0442

INTERFAITH WORKS CONNECTIONS – MONTGOMERY COUNTY	Interfaith Works Connections links low-income residents of Montgomery County to the resources they need. The Resource Coordinators, who are bilingual in English and Spanish, meet with those in need of assistance at the Interfaith Works Clothing Center to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment, gather information to make referrals to appropriate partner providers, and educate clients about available assistance. Referrals are made to many types of services, including food, vocational services, English/literacy classes, furniture, and behavioral health. Interfaith Works Connections also works with neighbors in financial crisis to provide a safety net and prevent evictions and utility cutoffs subject to funding availability. The IW Connections Resource Coordinators meet with clients by appointment only at the Interfaith Works Clothing Center at: 751 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville. Call directly for assistance: 240-641-6307.
FINANCIAL RESOURCES	
STATE OF MARYLAND HOMEOWNER'S TAX CREDIT PROGRAM	The State of Maryland has the Homeowners' Tax Credit Program in place, which allows credits against the homeowner's property tax bill if the property taxes <u>exceed</u> a fixed percentage of the person's gross income. In other words, it sets a limit on the amount of property taxes any homeowner must pay based upon his or her income. Before your eligibility according to income can be considered, you must meet four basic requirements: • You must own or have a legal interest in the property. • The dwelling on which you are seeking the tax credit must be your principal residence where you live at least six months of the year, including July 1, unless you are a recent home purchaser or unless you are unable to do so because of your health or need of special care. • Your net worth, not including the value of the property on which you are seeking the credit or any qualified retirement savings or Individual Retirement Accounts, must be less than \$200,000. • Your combined gross household income cannot exceed \$60,000. Homeowners' and Renters' tax credit applications can be filed online through http://www.taxcredits.sdat.maryland.gov SDAT's Tax Credits office located at State Center in Baltimore will be closed to the public until further notice. The Department strongly encourages online filing when possible, since applications filed online will be processed significantly faster than those filed by mail. Applications will be reviewed 60-90 days after they are submitted.

STATE OF MARYLAND'S RENTERS' TAX CREDIT PROGRAM	The Renters' Tax Credit Program provides property tax credits for renters who meet certain requirements. The plan was modeled after and designed to be similar in principle to the Homeowners' Tax Credit Program. The concept rests on the reasoning that renters indirectly pay property taxes as part of their rent and thus should have some protection, as do homeowners. For more information or if you have questions regarding the Renters' Tax Credit, please contact the Department's Renters' Tax Credit Program at: sdattaxcredits@maryland.gov or 410-767-5915. Homeowners' and Renters' tax credit applications can be filed online through http://www.taxcredits.sdattaxcredits.maryland.gov. SDAT's Tax Credits are open to the public. Please be advised that appointments are recommended. The Department strongly encourages online filing when possible, since applications filed online will be processed significantly faster than those filed by mail. Applications will be reviewed 60-90 days after they are submitted.
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKFORCE PROGRAMS & RESOURCES	
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR EMPLOYMENT RECRUITMENTS DUE TO COVID-19	The Maryland Department of Labor is hosting recruitments, job fair events and other employment services. To locate the Maryland American Job Center near you, visit the Maryland Department of Labor website: https://www.dllr.state.md.us/county/ As details may change, please confirm event specifics by calling and/or checking online prior to attending any recruitments or job fair events. FOR MORE INFORMATION, visit the Maryland Workforce Exchange.
WORKSOURCE MONTGOMERY	WorkSource Montgomery American Job Centers are dedicated to connecting County residents with growing industries in the area and helps to meet the needs of the underemployed and unemployed. Meet with consultants to discuss career exploration, referrals to training programs, résumé preparation, and workshops to enhance job seeking skills and work readiness. Access computers with Internet, printers, photocopiers, fax machines, telephones, and a variety of job search resource materials. Grow your business and talent pipeline with the help of Maryland's Business Services staff located at the WorkSource Montgomery American Job Center. Experts in State resources, recruitment, and retention strategies are here to help.

	The WorkSource Montgomery American Job Centers are open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. FOR MORE INFORMATION Germantown American Job Center 12900 Middlebrook Road, First Floor Germantown, MD 20874 Phone: 240.406.5485 Fax: 301.685.5569 info@workSourcemontgomery.com WorkSource Montgomery American Job Center 11510 Georgia Avenue, First Floor Wheaton, MD 20902 Phone: 301.929.4350 Fax: 301.929.4383 dlwdalwheaton-labor@maryland.gov FOR MORE INFORMATION Visit: https://worksourcemontgomery.com/calendar/
FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL RESOURCES FOR BUSINESSES	
U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	The U.S. Small Business Administration is unable to accept new applications for COVID-19 relief loans or grants. However, PPP loan forgiveness and EIDL increases continue to be offered. FOR MORE INFORMATION Visit: https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/covid-19-relief-options
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY – ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES	The COVID-19 public health crisis and resulting economic crisis have created a variety of challenges for small, micro, and solo businesses in communities across the country. The Treasury Department is providing critical assistance to small businesses across the country, facilitating the urgent deployment of capital and support to help these organizations not just persevere, but recover on solid footing. FOR MORE INFORMATION Visit: https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-small-businesses

FINANCIAL INCENTIVE PROGRAMS IN MARYLAND	To learn more about financial incentives for businesses in Maryland and to search programs by type and/or category, visit: commerce.knack.com/maryland-funding-incentives
MONTGOMERY COUNTY - BUSINESS RESOURCES & SUPPORT	For more information on resources and programs available to assist businesses in Montgomery County, visit: montgomerycountymd.gov/biz-resources/covid19/
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY- BUSINESS RESOURCES & SUPPORT	For more information on resources and programs available to assist businesses in Prince George's County, visit: pgcedc.com/covid19