

EMERGENCY RESOURCES DURING COVID-19

August 28, 2020

RENTERS/HOMEOWNERS: Homeowners and renters are protected from eviction or foreclosure until Dec. 31. However, renters and those with mortgages may apply for Emergency Rental/Mortgage Assistance here: <https://www.phfa.org/pacares/>; <https://phlrentassist.org/apply>. Under the Freddie Mac program, multifamily landlords whose properties are financed with Freddie Mac are requiring landlords not to evict any tenant based solely on non-payment of rent if the landlord is in a forbearance period during COVID-19: www.freddiemac.com. <https://clsphila.org/housing/renters-utilities-pandemic/>. For legal help with housing, contact Anna Brickman at Face to Face: (215) 438-7939.

MORTGAGE: Pennsylvanians can apply for mortgage assistance here: <https://www.phfa.org/pacares/>. Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac are allowing lenders to suspend payments for up to 12 months for homeowners experiencing a loss of income due to the outbreak of COVID-19, and would not be reported to credit agencies. For more information, go to www.fanniemae.com and www.freddiemac.com. Foreclosures are also temporarily suspended during the COVID-19 outbreak: www.phfa.org.

COMPUTERS: human-I-T connects low-income individuals and nonprofits to technology, internet, and digital training. Qualified individuals can purchase low-cost computers. They have desktops as low as \$55 and laptops for \$85. They offer free shipping, 1 year of unlimited tech support and a 1-year hardware warranty. PCs for People will ship used computers for free and is providing a 20% discount to new customers: <https://www.pcsforpeople.org/get-technology/>. They have desktops starting at \$75 and offer free shipping and a 1-year warranty. Customers can get laptops for \$150 from Comcast Internet Essentials: <https://www.internetessentials.com/low-cost-computer>. Northstar Digital Literacy is also providing their digital skills assessment and basic computer classes to anyone for free right now: <https://tinyurl.com/yy3yw3lj>.

INTERNET: Xfinity WiFi hotspots are currently free: www.xfinity.com/wifi. For help with affordable internet, go here: <https://tinyurl.com/yaezufzn>.

CHILDCARE: The Access Center will provide Philadelphia students with FREE childcare/daily supervision during digital learning time (weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). They will also provide supplemental activities and meals to parents who can not afford to stay at home with their children during school hours. Site registration will be limited to align with health and safety guidelines, with

most sites serving around 22 students. Registration priority will be given to students with the highest need who can't safely stay at home during the school day. Childcare is also available for eligible essential workers during the COVID-19 crisis. Go here for more information:

www.philaymca.org/childcare-relief-program and <https://tinyurl.com/y78wsr5z>.

FREE COVID-19 TESTING SITES: COVID-19 testing is now free for uninsured Pennsylvania residents. For those who do test positive, Pennsylvania's Federally Qualified Health Centers are providing care for free and/or on a sliding-scale. For more information, call: 1-877-724-3258. Philadelphians can be tested at: Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Citizens Bank Park, Jefferson Health Northeast, University of Pennsylvania Health System, and Rite Aid: 7401 Ogontz Ave. Also available at Health Annex, every Wednesday, 8:30 am-3:30 pm, 6120 Woodland Ave, 267-356-0362. Please go here for a detailed list of locations: <https://6abc.com/6045920/>. Rite Aide now provides free drive-thru testing for COVID-19: <https://www.riteaid.com/pharmacy/services/covid-19-testing>. Select Walmart parking lots offer testing for COVID-19 across Pennsylvania. For more information, go here: <https://tinyurl.com/y8cl7xb5>. If you need to self quarantine, here are guidelines from the CDC on how to do it safely without infecting other members of your household: <https://tinyurl.com/y8u2b8mf>.

U.S. CENSUS: Deadline has been extended to October 31, 2020. Field workers are now going door-to-door to collect data from Pennsylvania residents. To avoid a visit, you may fill out the survey online at: www.2020census.gov.

FREE EMT TRAINING: West Philadelphia Skills Initiative in partnership with Drexel University is offering free EMT training/certification to Philadelphia residents. Sessions start September 21 and end December 22, 2020. A \$150 weekly stipend is provided for students during the program. For more information, go to: <https://www.tfaforms.com/4845387>.

FREE INTERNET FOR STUDENTS: PHLConnectED will connect up to 35,000 K-12 student households with internet service in Philadelphia. The program will offer eligible student households up to two years of high-speed internet. Participants will not pay any out-of-pocket expenses or installation fees. For more information, go here: <https://tinyurl.com/yxutsyk4>.

HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR VETERANS: If you or someone in your house has served in the military, you may be eligible for additional Supportive for Veteran Families (SSVF) Benefits. If you are homeless or have fallen behind on your rent, or have other housing needs, you may be eligible for SSVF funds. Due to COVID-19, more help is available than in the past. Please contact the UESF Veteran's Hotline: 215-814-6888.

FREE LIBRARY CALL CENTER: All Free Library locations will remain closed to the public. However, many Free Library programs are proceeding virtually. The Free Library call center is live! Patrons can call five days a week to speak with expert staff, who will provide information, technology help, Library updates, and more: 1-833-TALK FLP (1-833-825-5357).

RE-ENTRY SERVICES: Broad Street Ministries is providing help with: expunging a criminal record, checking court dates, connecting with someone who shares your experience, staying safe or getting tested for COVID-19, finding free meals or food pantries, enrolling in benefits or filing for your stimulus check, replacing/ renewing ID, seeing a doctor, and finding emergency shelter. For more information, call: 267-857-4800

LEGAL HELP, EXPUNGEMENT & BIRTH CERTIFICATES: The Face to Face Legal Center is now open in the Face to Face parking lot from 12 to 1:30 PM for free legal services. Mondays: general legal intake & expungement intake; Thursdays: general legal intake & birth certificate applications. Everyday by telephone: (215) 438-7939 ext. 230. Masks are required. Social distance will be kept. Free hot meals and groceries will be available to go. Questions? Contact Anna Brickman at (215) 438-7939 ext. 230.

CAREER WARDROBE: will be moving to 413 & 417 N. 4th St. Philadelphia and will have a summer clearance on career clothing for \$1, \$5 and \$10. Career Wardrobe is available to help you with: career coaching; job searching, interview prep & attire, advice on unemployment compensation and other resources. They are also sending out Wardrobe Boxes to those who need immediate clothing. Make an appointment here: <https://careerwardrobe.org/client-services-covid19-shutdown/>.

RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES IN PHILADELPHIA: CAP4KIDS has a variety of resources available for families in Philadelphia, including a Philadelphia COVID-19 Helpline 1-800-722-7112; www.phila.gov/2020-03-14-greater-philadelphia-coronavirus-helpline-opened-by-health/.

FOOD: Also, if you are out of work without pay, you may be eligible to receive food sourced from an ongoing food bank or food pantry in Pennsylvania. For more information, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/s3gzcf2>, <https://www.philabundance.org/covid19/>, <https://tinyurl.com/tsp2utf> or <https://tinyurl.com/y3qpqjcy>. FREE lunch for school-age students: <https://tinyurl.com/wzc4hpz>. BeBashi food bank: <https://www.bebashi.org/hunger-relief/>. Philadelphia Corporation for Aging will deliver food to seniors: 215-765-9040. Boxed meals are available on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays between 12 and 2 PM at Face to Face 123 E. Price Street in Philadelphia. Dare To Imagine & PhilaBundance are giving out food boxes Monday & Friday, 10 am and 12 pm: 6610 Anderson St, Philadelphia, PA 19119. Restaurant Depot stores are open to the general public to buy food and toiletries in bulk. You can order online and pick up at the store: www.restaurantdepot.com.

FREE HAIRCUTS FOR MEN: JEVS has partnered with the Lehigh Valley Barber School to offer FREE haircuts to male job seekers. Cuts are offered at 114 N. 3rd Street, Philadelphia. Mondays - Saturdays. Call 484-350-8970 to schedule an appointment. Be sure to mention "JEVS Looking Forward" when you call. COVID precautions will be enforced at appointment. Please bring your mask!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: The Philadelphia Mayor's Office of Civic Engagement and Volunteer Service has volunteer opportunities to do things like: pack boxes of food for residents experiencing hunger, deliver food to homebound seniors, serve to-go meals to community members experiencing homelessness and clean up local parks. To volunteer, please go to: <https://tinyurl.com/yyeyahra>.

VIRTUAL CAREERLINK WORKSHOPS: CareerLink offers virtual workshops in a variety of areas including: Do's and Don'ts of Resumes, Stress Management, Ace the Interview, Navigating the PA CareerLink Job Search Site and Modern Interviewing, to name a few. For more information, go here: <https://tinyurl.com/y49l3hqw>.

PARENTING CLASSES: Congresso is offering a 12-week virtual parenting class, Wednesdays, 9:30 am (Espanol), 5:30 pm (English). DHS-approved certificate for completing the program. Text "PARENTING" to 215-774-2148 for more information.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS: If you are an independent contractor or business with no employees (just the owner), you may be eligible for up to \$20,800 from the Payment Protection Plan (PPP). The PPP was set up to help businesses that suffered due to COVID-19. Deadline has been extended to August 8. To apply, go here: <https://tinyurl.com/y84vhm74>

LOSS OF INCOME: If you lost your job, have a reduction in hours, or are a "gig" worker who has a reduced income due to COVID-19, you may be eligible for public assistance; <https://tinyurl.com/sgxgvdm>. Or, go here to see if you qualify for unemployment benefits: www.uc.pa.gov; pandemic unemployment assistance: <https://tinyurl.com/yar73kz8>; UC Virtual Assistant Line: 877-978-1295; email: uchelp@pa.gov. People who exhaust their regular unemployment compensation and federal Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation may now qualify for 13 additional weeks of payments: <https://tinyurl.com/y739sagn>

PENNSYLVANIA BUSINESS GRANTS: The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) will distribute \$225 million to small business owners impacted by COVID. For more information, go here: <https://pabusinessgrants.com/>.

PECO: is suspending fees for delays in payments and suspending service shut-offs until further notice. Please call 1-800-494-4000 for more information.

PHILADELPHIA GAS WORKS: is suspending all service disconnections and are waiving new late payment charges until further notice. If you have difficulty paying your bill, contact: 1-800-494-4000. Energy assistance grants may be available.

PHILADELPHIA WATER DEPARTMENT: is suspending water shut-offs and are waiving new late payment charges until further notice: <http://water.phila.gov/covid-19/>

FREE TECH TRAINING: Thinkful is offering free tech webinars in computer science on a variety of areas including learning Javascript, UX/UI design and more so that job seekers can launch new careers. In addition to these free workshops, there will be: info sessions, tech talks, and happy hours focused on building relevant technical skills and growing your professional network. For more information, go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/thinkful-webinars-17048039731>

SEPTA: most routes have been restored and passengers are required to pay for travel. Masks are required on all SEPTA vehicles. The "Lifeline Service Schedule" remains in effect providing limited service on Regional Rail. Please call 1-855-567-3782 for more information.

UESF: UESF helps to: keep Philadelphians in their homes, utility shut-off notices or terminations, supportive services for eligible veterans, high water bills, housing stabilization, benefit access center, shelter to permanent housing and job retention. For more information, go to: <https://uesfacts.org/>; 215-972-5170.

SHOPPING HELP: Shopping Angels is a team of volunteers who shop and deliver groceries to those in need. For more information, go here: <https://tinyurl.com/ycdbc6qg>

PHILADELPHIA BAIL FUND: provides bail for activists and protestors. You can go here to request funds or make a donation: <https://www.phillybailfund.org/>

BUSINESS GRANTS FOR WOMEN: has \$5,000 grants for up to 1,000 female entrepreneurs whose business has been impacted by COVID-19: <https://www.globalgiving.org/redbackpackfund/>

CLARIFI FINANCIAL COUNSELING: Clarifi financial counselors are available to assist with: developing crisis spending plans to prioritize their expenses during a reduction or loss of income, apply for relief from payments to credit card companies, banks, and student lenders; and help them find resources that might be available to them: www.clarifi.org.

HOMELESS: Center City Holiday Inn Express will be the quarantine site for homeless people with COVID-19 (and for people who can not self-quarantine in their homes). For more information, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/w6yf6p9>. New Day Drop-In Center provides free showers for women Mondays & Wednesdays: 2659 Kensington Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19125. Also: <https://tinyurl.com/y9cb6moc>

OVER AGE 55: Career Solutions for 55+ has started working with participants virtually to help them become job ready (via Zoom). For more information, email Yolanda Burnett at yolanda.burnett@jevs.org; 267-449-0192.

DRIVER'S LICENSE: Some driver's license centers have reopened. Please check the website below for a complete list. Drivers will be allowed to use their existing photos when renewing their license online. Enforcement of REAL ID is postponed until October 21, 2021 due to COVID-19 outbreak. For more information, go to: www.penndot.gov.

FREE STATE IDs: Free state issues IDs are available at the following locations: Project HOME Face-to-Face Germantown, 1515 Fairmount Avenue: 215-232-7272 and 6001 Germantown Avenue, Phone: 215-438-7939. Please call ahead for income guidelines.

STUDENT LOANS: No suspended payments and interest accrual on all U.S. Department of Education (ED) owned loans until September 30, 2020: <https://navient.com/covid-19>; www.StudentAid.gov/coronavirus;

MENTAL HEALTH: NAMI has published a guide for coping with COVID to help those who suffer with mental illness: <https://www.nami.org/covid-19-guide>. Mental Health Resources are also available at: MindPHLtogether.com. The Philly Hope Line is available to all Philadelphia School District children & their families: 833-745-4673.

EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION: Lyft is offering free or reduced fare transportation to essential workers, seniors and people in need: <https://www.lyft.com/blog/posts/supporting-our-community>. GoPuff is offering any employee of a participating hospital a free goPuff order of essential goods as well as a free delivery: <https://gopuff.com/home/covid-response>.

EMERGENCY RESOURCES FOR ABUSED WOMEN: are available for women and children who may need emergency help and/or escape from an abusive partner while in quarantine: <https://tinyurl.com/reh53xs>. Lyft is providing emergency transportation to abuse survivors needing emergency exit: <https://www.lyft.com/blog/posts/supporting-our-community>.

UTILITIES/LIHEAP: Low-income customers who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and have a past-due bill may be eligible for up to \$800 through LIHEAP's (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) Recovery Crisis Program. Visit pgworks.com/crisis.

SUBSTANCE USE HELP: Gaudenzia Inc. Eastern region programs offer Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for substance use disorders. For more information, contact: 215 223-9460.

EAP EMERGENCY MONEY: The City of Philadelphia has a NEW Emergency Assistance Program for pregnant women or families with children. You may be eligible for a one-time cash grant between \$600-\$1,200. Go here to apply: www.compass.state.pa.us; 833-373-5868.

SNAP BENEFITS: You may be eligible for emergency SNAP benefits for groceries during COVID-19. Go here for more information: www.compass.state.pa.us.

HEALTH INSURANCE: If you have been laid off, you may qualify for free medical assistance, even if you are collecting unemployment. However, if you do not qualify, you may be eligible for health insurance through: www.healthcare.gov (must apply within 60 DAYS of when you lose coverage through your employer).

RESOURCES FOR IMMIGRANTS: If you are an immigrant and need help during COVID, go here: <https://tinyurl.com/ybug9c3f>.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS: Receive help from local community members and grassroots organizations providing assistance during COVID-19: <https://tinyurl.com/y9v4dsdu>.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES: CORA provides counseling, education, psychology and speech services to over 12,000 students in 62 nonpublic schools in Philadelphia. Go here for more information: 215-342-7660; schoolservices@coraservices.org.

FEDERAL JOB TRAINING: If you are seeking a job as a federal employee, free online training is available: <https://www.usajobs.gov/Notification/Events/#OM000354>.

STIMULUS CHECKS: Whether you are employed full time or part time, a gig worker, unemployed, or retired, you are likely eligible for a stimulus check or direct deposit: <https://tinyurl.com/wkdbhyx>. The starting amount is \$1,200 per person but will go up or down based on your situation.

GLOVES: are typically stocked at IGA supermarkets: www.iga.com and PJP Marketplace stores: www.pjpmarketplacestores.com.

SUPPORT FOR COVID PATIENTS: The Patient Advocate Foundation (PAF) provides case management for food, rent, mortgage, utilities, health insurance, and financial resources, to support patients, and their families, who are impacted by, or have been diagnosed with, COVID-19: <https://tinyurl.com/ybeo3vzo>.

MASKS: Are provided free of charge for employees of some businesses. N95 masks can be purchased at Healing Pharmacy: 109 W. Chelton Ave. NBC 10 has two video tutorials on how to make your own face mask from what you already have at home: <https://tinyurl.com/yx24gkqp>.

MISCELLANEOUS LOW-COST GOODS: Dollar Tree is open daily until 8 pm (unless mandated by local officials to be closed) and also has ordering online: www.dollartree.com. Most of the stores accept SNAP benefits. Dollar General also offers ordering online: www.dollargeneral.com. GoPuff is offering any employee of a participating hospital a free goPuff order of essential goods as well as a free delivery: <https://gopuff.com/home/covid-response>.

DIAPERS/FORMULA: are available through Catholic Social Services: <https://cssphiladelphia.org/>

DISABLED: If you or a neighbor needs help getting groceries, medicine and supplies, go here: <https://tinyurl.com/urrst89>. If you are disabled and need help, go here: <https://mutualaidphilly.com>. The City's Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services will hold virtual events throughout the month focused on mental health. Visit healthymindsphilly.org for an updated calendar.

FINATA EMERGENCY LOAN: is available for entrepreneurs affected by COVID-19 and other emergencies. Loans range from \$5,000-\$15,000 without closing fees. Please contact Finanta for more information and to apply: 267-236-7030 (for English) or 267-236-7019 (para Español).