



Utility Assistance

Last Update: 11/5/2018

Michigan Public Service Commission www.michigan.gov/mpsc:

Consumer Tips: Consumer tips and brochures provide information on important utility topics such as: reducing energy use, bill payment assistance programs, selecting a long distance telephone company, and reducing telemarketing sales calls. New publications are created as consumer needs are identified or new services become available:

www.michigan.gov/mpsc/0,4639,7-159-16368_16408---00.htm

Energy Assistance: Find suggestions for saving energy, links to informational Consumer Tips, and a wide range of other helpful consumer resource: www.michigan.gov/documents/mpsc/energyassistance_389439_7.htm

MEAP (Michigan Energy Assistance Program): Primary funding source utility assistance, frequently asked questions, and MEAP grant program fact sheets:

www.michigan.gov/mpsc/0,4639,7-159-52493---00.html

Coalition to Keep Michigan Warm: A state-wide Coalition that seeks to improve the availability of financial and human resources to meet the energy assistance needs of Michigan's low income households. www.coalitiontokeepmichiganwarm.org

Are you having trouble paying for your electricity, gas, heating oil or propane?

Contact your **UTILITY/SERVICE PROVIDER** for low-income programs:

Consumers Energy : 1-800-477-5050 or

www.ConsumersEnergy.com/assistance

DTE Energy: 1-800.477.4747 or www.newlook.dteenergy.com

Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS):

Apply for utility assistance via online application:

<https://newmibridges.michigan.gov>.

Find locations here:

<https://www.michigan.gov>

You do not have to be in shut off status to apply. If you are on a payment plan you will not be eligible for assistance. If you fall off the payment plan you can update your application.

Other UTILITY ASSISTANCE RESOURCES/FUNDS

Michigan Community Action-Each county is served by a local Community Action Agency that typically receives funding for utility assistance and weatherization services.

Visit: <https://mcac.memberclicks.net/>

Macomb- Macomb Community Action <http://mca.macombgov.org/MCA-ES-ActionCenters#Utility>

Oakland – OLHSA www.olhsa.org/

Wayne – Wayne Metro Community Action Agency www.waynemetro.org/

THAW-The Heat And Warmth Fund, THAW, is a leading provider of utility assistance for Michigan residents in need. <https://thawfund.org/>

Salvation Army-www.salvationarmyusa.org/

St. Vincent de Paul- 1-877-ST VINCE or www.svdpdet.org/

For additional resources contact United Way, call 211 or <http://www.211.org/>



Oakland Housing Assistance

Are you in need of **EMERGENCY HOUSING?**

YES

NO

Contact your County's local COC/HARA:

COC-Continuum of Care is a coalition of area agencies working together with homeless residents of the county to help them access needed services.

HARA-A Housing Assessment and Resource Agency (HARA) provides centralized intake and housing assessment.

Oakland County



In Oakland the HARA is

Community Housing Network -248.928.0111
866.282.3119 (toll free) or

www.communityhousingnetwork.org

Sign up for the Section 8 alert:

<https://communityhousingnetwork.org/other-services/section-8-wait-list/>

MSHDA- The Michigan State Housing Development Authority provides financial and technical assistance through public and private partnerships to create and preserve safe and decent affordable housing. www.Michigan.gov/mshda will guide you to the following housing resources:

- **Affordable Rental Housing:** search for rental housing by location, maximum rent, # of bedrooms and amenities at MSHDA's Michigan Housing Locator at: www.michiganhousinglocator.com or opportunities for Housing Choice Vouchers and other subsidized housing at: www.michigan.gov/mshda/0,4641,71415555_41607--,00.html
- **Mortgage** – The Michigan Homeowner Assistance Nonprofit Housing Corporation (MHA) acting through MSHDA designed forgivable loan programs to help homeowners who have a financial hardship. Apply at www.stepforwardmichigan.org or call 866-946-7432.

DHHS (Department of Health and Human Services)- www.michigan.gov/dhs

- **SER funds (State Emergency Relief)** as long as the housing is affordable (monthly rental equal to or less than 75% of net available income each month) and the household has ongoing income to support the expense. Contact your local DHS office, which can be found at: www.michigan.gov/dhs/0,4562,7-124-5459_5461--,00.html or apply on-line using the Michigan Benefits Access Initiative (MBAI), an on-line application created to streamline the benefits application process & increase online access to DHHS programs at: <http://mibenefitsaccess.org/>

For Michigan HARA locations see: www.michigan.gov/documents/mshda/HARAList_396245_7.pdf

For additional resources contact United Way, call 211 or <http://www.211.org/>



Last Update: 10/25/2018

Employment Assistance Macomb, Oakland, & Wayne

Statewide

Michigan Works!-Michigan Works! partners with community partners to meet the diverse needs of all customers. All ages, all skill sets and all levels of experience are welcome. 1-800-285-WORKS (9675) or www.michiganworks.org

-Job Seekers first steps: www.michiganworks.org/job-seekers/

Pure Michigan Talent Connect-The official website for job hunters seeking new careers and employers looking to post jobs and hire employees in Michigan. 1-888-522-0103 or www.mitalent.org

Unemployment Insurance Agency– Manages unemployment taxes and insurance. Learn more about Unemployment information for both employers and jobseekers. www.michigan.gov/uia/0,1607,7-118-26831--,00.html

Veterans Employment Services-Explore detailed information regarding Michigan jobs, careers and employment assistance for Veterans. www.mitalent.org/veteran/

Michigan Rehabilitation Services-Works in partnership with individuals with disabilities to prepare for and obtain employment - also assists employers find and retain qualified workers with disabilities. www.michigan.gov/dhs/0,4562,7-124-5453_25392--,00.html

Resource Network Inc.-Works to educate, support, inform, and advocate for participants and employers as they strive to reach their goals in the world of work. Website: www.trn-inc.com/

JVS-JVS adapts its services to meet the changing needs of our community to help job seekers, people with disabilities, seniors, students, homeless individuals, veterans and people on probation or parole fulfill their needs and attain their goals. Phone: (248) 559-5000 or <https://www.jvsdet.org/>

The Arc-The Arc Michigan facilitates a statewide network of local chapters assisting persons with developmental disabilities and their families through education, training, technical assistance and advocacy. www.arcmi.org

{STEP} Services to Enhance Potential (Wayne County): Supported employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. STEP guides individuals in the pursuit of their chosen goals and the achievement of personal satisfaction in their lives <http://stepcentral.org/>

For additional resources contact United Way, call 211 or <http://www.211.org/>



Legal Assistance

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Oakland County

County Bar Associations: Provides a referral to a lawyer-(248) 334-3400 www.ocba.org/

Friend of the Court: Provides services to parties with minor children involving divorce, family support, paternity, custody, parenting time and child support-(248) 858-1565 www.oakgov.com/courts/foc

Juvenile Court: Provides programs for youth at risk of neglect, abuse and delinquency-Juvenile Court (248) 858-0112
www.oakgov.com/courts/circuit/Pages/division_committee/family-overview.aspx

Lakeshore Legal Aid (COUNSEL & ADVOCACY LAW LINE (CALL): CALL is a non-profit legal aid program that provides free legal help to low income people and people age 60+, regardless of income. (888) 783-8190 <https://lakeshorelegalaid.org/>

Statewide

Michigan Protection & Advocacy Service, Inc. (MPAS)-Provides Advocacy and protection of the legal rights of people with disabilities in Michigan concerning education, employment, housing, transportation, etc. from the an independent, private, nonprofit organization. Website www.mpas.org/

Legal Aid and Defender Association-Free legal advice and representation (except for traffic violations for misdemeanors) for eligible clients (low or moderate income, U.S. citizen or legal resident). Available from Toll-free number: (877) 964-4700 Website: www.ladadetroit.org.

Michigan Legal Services-Free legal services for low-income, homeless, undocumented persons and prisoners. A nonprofit legal services organization dedicated to eliminating systemic causes of poverty in the areas of housing, health, public benefits, and community economic development. Website: www.milegalservices.org/

Michigan Crime Victims Services-Provides reimbursement expenses to innocent crime victims who suffer personal injury. Can provide innocent victims and their families with up to \$25,000 in financial assistance for expenses accrued as a result of a violent crime Visit the website at www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-54783_54853---,00.html

Michigan Legal Help- Provides help to people who have to handle simple civil legal problems without a lawyer. The website provides articles to learn about a specific area of the law and toolkits to help to someone represent themselves in court. Some forms are completed automatically once you answer simple questions. Visit Website at www.michiganlegalhelp.org/

Accounting Aid Society Low Income Taxpayer Clinic - If you are having trouble with an IRS audit, a collection appeal, payment agreement, levies, liens, identity theft, or other similar struggles, we can help. Our clinic is open year-round to all individuals who fit within the income ceiling for services. To access our services, leave a voicemail on our intake hotline at (313) 556-1920 x1219 with your name, phone number, and a brief description of your tax problem. <https://accountingaidsociety.org/low-income-taxpayer-clinic/>



Food Assistance Macomb, Oakland & Wayne

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YES

Are you in need of **EMERGENCY FOOD**?

NO

- **Pantry Food Locator**

www.Pantrynet.org
or
www.foodpantries.org

- **USDA National Hunger Hotline**

(Resources & Referrals)

www.hungerfreeamerica.org or
1-866-3-HUNGRY or 1-877-8-HAMBRE

- **Homeless Shelter Directory**

(Food & Shelter Listings)

<http://www.homelessshelterdirectory.org/>

- **Veteran Service Office**

www.michiganveterans.com or 800-642-4837

First call the Department of Health & Human Services

Food Assistance Program

855-275-6424

<https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs>

Pregnant & 0-5 years

Adults & Children

Seniors

Veterans

W.I.C

(Women, Infants and Children)

1-800-26-BIRTH or

wicoffice.net/wic-clinics

TEFAP

(Emergency Food Assistance program)

800-481-4989

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/>

Veteran Service Office

800-642-4837 or

www.michiganveterans.com

- **Meals on Wheels Programs**

Southeastern MI locator:

<http://www.aaa1b.org/programs-services/meals-on-wheels/>

- **Focus Hope Food Delivery Program (Tri-County Area)**

313.494.5500 or <https://www.focushope.edu/>

For additional resources contact United Way, call 211 or <http://www.referweb.net/uwse/>