

## **EDUCATION/TRAINING FOR ADULTS**

### **1) ADULT LEARNING CENTER-PITTSFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

*10 Lyman Street 413-499-9530  
Suite 4 Fax: 413-443-7919  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.*

Closed for classes during summer months and school vacations. Free day and night classes for individuals 16 years and older seeking adult basic education skills, including a high school diploma, GED, or learning English as a second language. The Center also offers free career and educational planning, counseling and self-improvement services, and individual tutoring by volunteers to support classroom instruction. Information and referrals that can help immigrants, refugees and their families adjust to their new country are also available at no charge.

### **2) AMERICAN RED CROSS – BERKSHIRE COUNTY CHAPTER ([www.redcrossberkshirecounty.org](http://www.redcrossberkshirecounty.org))**

*480 West Street 413-442-1506  
P.O. Box 644 1-800-332-2030  
Pittsfield, MA 01202  
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.*

24-hour assistance for disaster victims, medical transportation, blood services, HIV/AIDS education and assistance for individuals living with HIV/AIDS. Service for the military and their families, homeless prevention services and sheltering. First Aid, CPR, AED, water safety, babysitting and lifeguard education. Nurse assistant training and caregivers program. Food pantry and Berkshires Bounty perishable food distribution. International tracing services. Volunteer development and youth leadership program.

### **3) BERKSHIRE AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER (AHEC) ([www.berkshireahec.org](http://www.berkshireahec.org))**

*60 Charles Street 413-447-2417  
Pittsfield, MA 01201 Fax: 413-499-0370  
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.*

Countywide consultant and planner for health and human services. Continuing education, in-service training, consultation, information and referral.

### **4) BERKSHIRE CENTER FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN**

*480 West Street 413-448-8281  
Pittsfield, MA 01201 1-888-742-7443 (toll free)  
Hours: Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Child care opens at 7:30 a.m.)*

Offers a wide range of support services to vulnerable children and their families. BCFC has 11 separate programs as follows:

- **Educational Child Care at Six Locations in Pittsfield:**
  - Child Care Center at 480 West Street (413-448-8281)
  - Dorothy Amos Community Preschool at 314 Columbus Avenue (413-499-2320)
  - Redfield Infant/Toddler Center at 48 Elizabeth Street (413-445-4136)
  - Crosby Partnership Preschool at 517 West Street (413-447-8994)
  - Conte Kids' Club (School-Age) at 200 West Union Street (413-496-9289)
  - Morningside Kids' Club (School-Age) at 100 Burbank Street (413-443-1467)
  
- **Healing Homes Therapeutic Foster Care (413-448-8281)**

Healing Homes is a private foster care program for children with special medical, physical or emotional needs, including children who have experienced multiple unsuccessful previous placements. This program provides the intensive support to foster parents which is necessary for them to help each child achieve his or her maximum potential.
  
- **McInerney Parent Center (413-499-3556)**

The McInerney Parent Center offers support services for parents on child rearing issues from infancy to teenagers.
  
- **Redfield House/Young Family Services (413-448-2997)**

Redfield House offers subsidized, supportive housing for young families in Berkshire County and serves a young parent population with prevention, education and treatment services that help create long-standing, positive benefits for families, children, and the community.
  
- **Parent's Place (413-664-4597)**

The Parent's Place, a collaboration of five agencies housed in Northern Berkshire, involves the whole family in a comprehensive family support and family literacy program. Services include adult education, early childhood enrichment, parent-child interaction and learning, parenting skill development, life skill development, and home visits.
  
- **Strong Families, Strong Kids, Strong Communities (SFSK) (413-443-1609)**

SFSK's purpose is to promote healthy development and school and community success. It offers a vehicle to increase parental involvement in school, a key factor in school success.
  
- **Permanency Supports (413-448-8281)**

This program provides a comprehensive range of services to ensure that adoptive families and adoptees have the support and knowledge necessary to sustain well-functioning families.
  
- **Pittsfield Even Start (413-448-9819)**

Even Start meets a need for family literacy for vulnerable families and collaborates with the Adult Learning Center and Head Start. Parents work on adult basic education, participate in parenting classes, participate in activities with their children, and children participate in early childhood (developmental) experiences.
  
- **21st Century Family Advocate (413-664-9633)**

BCFC has a family advocate assigned to a very large school-based program in North Adams. This federal program provides enrichment and community activities for families and children throughout the school system after school and evenings. The Family Support Leader provides outreach to families by referrals from the schools, and outreach on behalf of the program activities.

- **Family Development Program (413-445-4130)**

Family Development workers offer families concrete support and education including: child development, basic budgeting, household management, enhancing parent-child relationships, and teaching social skills.

- **DSS Family Based Services Network (FBS) (413-448-8281)**

The goal of this network is to achieve child safety, well-being and permanency through connecting families to a wide array of local services.

## **5) BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE Adult Basic Education Programs**

*1350 West Street 413-499-4660  
Pittsfield, MA 01201*

Designed to help students make the transition between Adult Basic Education programs and college. Includes reading, writing, math and computer classes, as needed, both spring and fall semesters at the Pittsfield campus.

## **6) BERKSHIRE COUNTY HOUSE OF CORRECTION**

*467 Cheshire Road 413-443-7220  
Pittsfield, MA 01201*

Free GED and adult basic education programs for inmates.

## **7) BERKSHIRE VOCATIONAL SERVICES OF MERIDIAN ASSOCIATES**

*141 North Street, Suite 7 413-448-5356  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.*

Prepares workers with disabilities for community job search. Includes interest testing, development of resumes, and training in interviewing techniques. Arranges interviews for various entry-level and semi-skilled openings, provides a skills trainer (job coach) to assist with on-the-job training, long term follow up and advocacy for pay raises, promotions, or job changes.

## **8) BERKSHIRE WORKS (MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT)**

*160 North Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor 413-499-2220  
Pittsfield, MA 01201 413-447-7324  
37 Main Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor 413-663-1111  
P.O. Box 937  
North Adams, MA 01247  
Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 8:30 a.m.- 5 p.m.  
Tuesday & Thursday, 8:30 a.m. – 7 p.m.*

One-Stop Career Centers of Berkshire County offer employment, education and training counselors, career resource library, on-line job bank, workshops, computer literacy classes, statewide referral network, unemployment insurance, claims and hearings, office of MA Attorney General, Fair Business Practice Division. Training and part-time employment for youth and adults who meet income eligibility criteria. Also some transportation, information, and referral services. Free GED program for pregnant or parenting youth 16-21 receiving TAFDC (Transitional Assistance for Families with Dependent Children).

## **9) CONSTRUCT/PROJECT HOME**

*41 Mahaiwe Street 413-528-1985  
Great Barrington, MA 01230-0582  
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.*

Short-term rental assistance, housing advocacy, apartment search services, home ownership programs. Adult education workshops and counseling for the homeless. Free GED, basic literacy and ESOL training for the homeless and people at risk of homelessness.

## **10) GREYLOCK LANGUAGE AND LEARNING CENTER, INC.**

*46 Howland Ave. Suite 3 413-743-8475  
Adams, MA 01220-1127*

For individuals with learning disabilities, Greylock Language and Learning Center offers affordable language tutoring (remedial, pre-GED, GED preparation, and ESL).

## **11) LEARNING SERVICES CENTER**

*Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts 413-662-5308  
Basement, Freel Library  
North Adams, MA 01247  
Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.*

Tutoring is scheduled at the convenience of tutor and student. Adult basic education and GED preparation. Classes are held in Adams and North Adams.

## **12) LITERACY NETWORK OF SOUTH BERKSHIRE**

*c/o Lee Library 413-243-0471*

*100 Main Street*

*Lee, MA 01238*

*Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.*

*Wednesday & Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.*

Please call for an appointment. (Tutoring is at convenience of tutor and student.) Confidential, one-on-one tutoring in Southern Berkshire County. Programs offered for adults: reading, basic math, writing, English as a second language, GED and citizenship preparation. Service is free.

## **13) LITERACY NETWORK OF SOUTH BERKSHIRE**

*c/o Lee Library 413-243-0471*

*100 Main Street*

*Lee, MA 01238*

*Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.*

*Wednesday & Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.*

Please call for an appointment. (Tutoring is at convenience of tutor and student.) Confidential, one-on-one tutoring in Southern Berkshire County. Programs offered for adults: reading, basic math, writing, English as a second language, GED and citizenship preparation. Service is free.

## **14) LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF BERKSHIRE COUNTY, INC.**

*Berkshire Athenaeum 413-499-9487*

*1 Wendell Avenue*

*P.O. Box 4434*

*Pittsfield, MA 01202*

*Hours: Monday 9 a.m.– noon; Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.*

*Summer Hours: Monday & Wednesday 9 a.m.- noon; Tuesday 10 a.m.-noon and 6-8 p.m.; Thursday 9 a.m.-noon and 6-8 p.m.*

(Tutoring for adults is available outside of office hours at the convenience of tutor and student.) Confidential and free service, one-on-one tutoring. Programs offered are reading, writing, English as a second language, and GED preparation.

## **15) MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE**

*75 South Church Street 413-236-2000*

*P.O. Box 576*

*Pittsfield, MA 01202*

*37 Main Street 413-663-1100*

*P.O. Box 975*

*North Adams, MA 01247*

*Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.*

State-sponsored employment training program for those currently receiving transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC); provides formal education skills training, on-the-job training, direct job placement, food stamps and emergency assistance. Child care services are available for those who qualify. Caseworker assistance may involve shelter and housing placement. Also offers Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled and Children (EAEDC) program, which provides cash assistance and limited medical coverage for elderly, disabled individuals without dependent children and unrelated adults caring for children under 18. The majority of recipients of EAEDC are single individuals with short-term disabilities. Those caring for a disabled household member may be eligible as well.

## **16) NEW AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP COALITION**

*c/o Jewish Federation of the Berkshires 413-445-4881*

*235 East Street*

*Pittsfield, MA 01201*

*Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.*

The Coalition offers free assistance to Berkshire County residents with all aspects of the citizenship process. Services range from eligibility assessment to application assistance to English as a second language and U.S. Civics classes to prepare for the citizenship interview. The Coalition also offers general support to the immigrant and refugee community.

## **17) NORTHERN BERKSHIRE ADULT EDUCATION PROJECT**

*c/o Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts 413-662-5308*

*375 Church Street*

*North Adams, MA 01247*

*Adams Memorial School*

*30 Columbus Street*

*Adams, MA 01220*

Offers free GED classes at MCLA and in Adams. Free ESOL classes at MCLA.

## **18) NORTHERN BERKSHIRE READS!**

*Milne Public Library 413-458-5369*

*1095 Main Street*

*Williamstown, MA 01267*

Free Adult Basic Education tutoring (basic math, reading, and writing) and ESOL tutoring offered in Williamstown.

**19) OUR FRIENDS HOUSE FAMILY SHELTER**  
**Operated by Berkshire Community Action Council**

*292 West Street 413-499-2877  
Pittsfield, MA 01201 (Office)  
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
(Someone is available 24 hours/7 days a week.)*

Short-term (three months) housing available for homeless families (not individuals) in Berkshire County. Works with families and agencies to ensure long-term housing placement. Pregnant single women are eligible. Shelter can accommodate persons with disabilities. Also offers GED tutoring, budget counseling, nutritional instruction and family advocacy.

**20) RESOURCES FOR CHILD CARE**  
**(Operated by Child Care of the Berkshires)**

*152 North Street, Suite 230 413-443-7830  
Pittsfield, MA 01201 877-443-7830 (Toll-free)  
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.*

Information and referral for parents seeking childcare in Berkshire County. Information on childcare openings and waiting lists. Assists in selecting most appropriate agencies. Voucher management agency in Berkshire County for low-income parents seeking childcare. Training for childcare providers and employer services to businesses contracted to agency.

**21) SOUTH BERKSHIRE EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE**  
**ADULT BASIC EDUCATION**

*P.O. Box 502 413-528-6263  
Great Barrington, MA 01230  
Location of classes: Searles Middle School  
79 Bridge Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230  
Hours: Classes held Monday–Thursday from 6:30 to 9 p.m. September – June*

Offers Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs including help for those with reading difficulties, GED preparation and computer training. Also offers ESOL instruction on four levels. Available to South County residents.

**22) UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY ASSOCIATION OF BERKSHIRE COUNTY, INC.**

*141 North Street 413-442-1562*

*Pittsfield, MA 01201*

*57 Main Street, Suite 214 413-664-9345*

*North Adams, MA 01247*

*Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and other hours by appointment*

Advocacy and other services for children and adults with physical, developmental and learning disabilities and their families. Programs consist of advocacy, assistive technology, wheelchair repair clinic, loaner program of durable medical equipment, computer evaluations, computer training and individual and family support. National website: [www.ucp.org](http://www.ucp.org).