

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

1) AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

www.cancer.org

*39 Wahconah Street 413-445-0005
P.O. Box 1695 (Can leave message on Tuesday & Friday.)
Pittsfield, MA 01202
Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday - 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Patient Support - Marie Barzousky 413-445-2416*

Information and referral, advocacy and direct services for individuals and families facing cancer; limited transportation for clients.

2) BERKSHIRE AIDS COALITION

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

Educational outreach, advocacy and emergency funds for persons infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and their family members.

3) BERKSHIRE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

*P.O. Box 778 413-499-0207
Pittsfield, MA 01202*

Socialization and support group for the legally blind of Berkshire County; some limited financial assistance for its members. Holds monthly meetings with occasional speakers.

4) FAMILY LIFE SUPPORT CENTER, INC.

*85 Main Street, Suite 228 413-664-8279
North Adams, MA 01247
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.
(Can leave message evenings and weekends.)*

Housing search assistance and homelessness prevention through apartment listings, landlord/tenant mediation, housing code checklist and limited financial aid. Emergency homeless shelter (Louison House). Employment & budget counseling, assistance in obtaining benefits if eligible (food stamps, WIC, housing subsidies). Information & referral for child care, as well as information about free medical and dental services. Also runs emergency food pantry. Volunteers/interns welcome to help with intake and eventually solve client problems with staff guidance.

5) 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.

6) SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

www.ssa.gov

*Silvio O. Conte Federal Building, 1st floor 413-499-2432
78 Center Street 1-800-772-1213
Pittsfield, MA 01201*

*Berkshire Bank Building, 2nd floor 413-664-7951
37 Main Street 1-800-772-1213
North Adams, MA 01247*

Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Administrative, federal government agency providing retirement, survivor benefits, Medicare and supplemental security income benefits to eligible persons. Also assigns Social Security numbers. Call for appointment if possible.

7) USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

*195 Russell Street, Suite B7 413-585-1000,ext. 4
Hadley, MA 01035-9521
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.*

- **HOME OWNERSHIP:** A Direct Loan Program is available to low-income families and individuals who wish to purchase or build a home in a rural town. Borrowers receive a direct loan from Rural Development with the payments based on their income with no down payment required. Borrowers must be unable to obtain a homeownership loan from a bank or other conventional sources.

- **HOME REPAIR:** Home improvement and repair assistance loans are available to very low income applicants who currently own a home in a rural town. Funds are available for repairs, improvements, and the removal of health and safety hazards. Seniors 62 and older who cannot afford a loan may also qualify for a grant of up to \$7500.

8) VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PREVENTION, ASSISTANCE, TRANSITION AND HEALTH ACCESS

*200 Veterans Memorial Drive, Suite 6 (802) 442-8541
Bennington, VT 05201-1949 Fax: (802) 447-6972
Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:45 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.*

Federal and state programs for individuals and families under the poverty level: Medicaid, food stamps, emergency aid, aid for needy families with dependent children (RUFA), and general assistance.