

## **++Information for Youth and Families--Amherst Community Connections, June 2015**

### **EMERGENCY CASH PROGRAMS**

- **\*TAFDC:** For families with children or pregnant women.
- **\*EAEDC:** < 65 yr. & disabled for 60 days or more.
- **\*\*SSI:** >= 65 yr. or anyone blind/disabled.
- **\*\*SSDI:** For disabled workers.
- **VETERAN'S SERVICE:** \$50 emergency cash. Funds for food, back rent, move-in. App. at Amherst Bangs Center **259-3028**.

### **CHILD CARE & PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS**

- **\*FREE/Low Cost Infant/Child Care:** 61 Strong Street, Amherst. **413-387-1234**
- **Head Start:** FREE preschool program at 1200 N Pleasant Street, Amherst, **413-387-1234**.

### **JOB PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH**

- **Job Corps Program:** For 16-24 youth. FREE housing, meals, health care, etc. Receive \$50-\$100 stipend. CALL: Westover Job Corps **413-593-4000**.
- **YouthBuild:** For at risk 16-24 yr youth. CALL: Worcester YouthBuild Partnership, **508-753-2991**.
- **YouthWorks:** Job program for at risk 14-21 yr. youth. CALL: **866-968-8461**.

### **ENERGY & UTILIY PROGRAMS**

- A. **Fuel Assistance:** Apply at Community Action: 56 Vernon St., Northampton, **413-582-4230**.
- B. **Citizens Energy Heat Assistance:** 100 gallons of FREE oil or \$150 credit for natural gas heat. Apply at **866-427-9918**.

C. **Good Neighbor Energy Fund:** Apply Tuesdays, 1-2:30, at Amherst Survival Center, 138 Sunderland Rd. Amherst, **413-549-3968**

### **D. Town of Amherst Emergency**

**Assistance:** Apply at Amherst Town Hall or Amherst Community Connections, **345-0737**.

E. **Utility Discount:** For anyone participates in public benefit programs. Receive a 20% to 40% discount on gas and electric rates. App. at utility companies.

F. **LIFELINE Landline Discount:** App. at your phone company. Save ~\$18/month.

G. **LIFELINE Cell phone:** FREE phone with 250 min/ mon. App. at SafeLink (**800-977-3768**) or Assurance (**888-848-4888**).

H. **Utility Shutoff Protection:** App. at your utility company. Sr. citizens, families with infants, or seriously ill people are eligible.

I. **Utility Arrearage Programs:** Apply Sept.-May at Interfaith Help Fund (**413-587-1228**); RAFT program; HAP: **413-233-1601**

### **FOOD PROGRAMS**

- **Food Stamps:** App. online. Or at Amherst Survival Center **413-549-3968**
- **Meals on Wheels:** >60 yr. Call: Amherst Senior Center **259-3213**.
- **WIC:** 150 Fearing St., Amherst, **549-6864**.

### **FUNDING FOR HOUSING**

- **Town of Amherst Emergency Funds:** App. at Apply at Amherst Town Hall or ACC, **413-345-0737**.
- **Interfaith Help Fund:** App. Sept. -May, Northampton Senior Center, 67 Conz Street, 587-1228
- **HomeBASE:** Up to \$4000 to assist

homeless families to pay rent, move-in costs, utility bills, etc. **HAP 413-233-1601**.

- **RAFT:** Residential Assistance for Families in Transition. Up to \$4000 to assist families to pay back rent, move-in cost, and others to **prevent** homelessness. **HAP 413-233-1601**.

### **EMERGENCY SHELTER**

- **DHCD/DTA office:** Go to 72-100 Front Street, Holyoke **413-552-5400**
- **DIAL/SELF:** Teen shelter, 21 Abbot St. Greenfield, **413-774-7054**.

### **EX-OFFENDER RESOURCES**

- **Regional Reentry Center:** 436 Dwight Street, Springfield, **413-784-1210**.
- **New England Prison Ministries:** Lowell, **978-458-1721**.
- **After Incarceration Support Systems,** 736 State St. Springfield, **413-733-5469**.

### **FREE LEGAL SERVICE**

- **Community Legal Aid:** 20 Hampton Ave. Ste #100, Northampton **413-584 4034**
- **Mass Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy:** **617-350-5480**
- **Disability Law Ctr.:** **617-723-8455**

\* **DTA--** 72-100 Front Street, Holyoke (**413-552-5400**)

\*\* **Social Security**-200 High Street, Holyoke (**877-480-4989**)