



Emergency Financial Assistance Funds

Important Note

Do you receive any needs-based benefits (SSI, TAFDC, SNAP, housing subsidies, etc.)? If so, **please get advice from a legal service agency before applying** for any of these programs to learn how they may affect your benefits.

Find your local legal service agency:

Massachusetts: masslrf.org/en/home

All other states: ptla.org/legal-services-links

Modest Needs

Online only service that offers short-term financial assistance to low-income working individuals and families in temporary crisis. Offers two types of grants:

- **Homecoming Heroes Grant:** for veterans transitioning from overseas deployment to civilian life
- **Self-Sufficiency Grant:** for normally self-sufficient, low-income households

You must be a legal resident of the US or Canada to apply. For more on eligibility: modestneeds.org/for-applicants/faq.asp. For more information and to apply: modestneeds.org.

The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army provides emergency financial assistance to help with rent and utilities. You do not have to be a citizen to apply. Search for the Salvation Army closest to you: salvationarmyusa.org.

Jewish Family and Children's Services

Provides rent and utilities assistance to greater Boston area residents, regardless of religion or affiliation. 781-647-JFCS (5327)

Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities' Basic Needs Fund provides rent and utility assistance. Search for the Catholic Charities closest to you: catholiccharitiesusa.org.

The United Way

The United Way First Call for Help is a good place to begin looking. They can give you information and a referral. Call them at 211 or visit:

unitedwaymassbay.org/

Your City or Town

Contact your city or town to see if they offer emergency assistance. MA

City/Town search: sec.state.ma.us/cis/cistel/telidx.htm

Disease or Disability-Specific Funds

There may be foundations that provide funds for people with your condition. Please consult your social worker for help locating any appropriate resources.

Additional Agencies

Also, try calling local religious organizations and local service groups such as the Elks, Jaycees, Kiwanis, Knights of Columbus, Lions and Rotary clubs

Funds for Greater Boston Residents

The Lend a Hand Society

Provides one-time emergency grants for low-income residents of **greater Boston regardless of immigration status. Social service advocates must apply on behalf of the person in need** by submitting a cover letter and the Agency Client Referral Form: lah.dreamhosters.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/Agency-Client-Referral-Form.pdf. **Please mail requests.**

More information: lend-a-hand-society.org.

The SWAN Society – for elder single, divorced, or widowed women

Provides one-time, emergency grants to single, divorced or widowed women 65 and over who live within a **25-mile radius of Boston. Requires a professional to submit the application.** The application is online at:

swansocietyboston.org/individual-grants

For more information, call 617-918-7404 or see swansocietyboston.org.

Rogerson Communities Elder Assistance Fund – for Boston elders

Grants for **very low income Boston residents age 62 or older (or 55 or older and disabled)**. For **one-time** extraordinary expenses:

- Supplemental housing support due to an extraordinary circumstance such as fire, weather-related damage, moving, etc.
- Health-related equipment (air conditioner, dentures, prescriptions, etc.)

The fund **cannot** assist with any form of rental assistance or utility bills (phone, gas, or electric). However, it can help with emergency oil deliveries in some

cases. **Requires a professional letter of support.** For more information and to apply, contact 617-327-1503 and ask for Resident Services Coordinator Danaejah Buissereth.

Funds for Other Massachusetts Residents

Cape Cod Times Needy Fund

Provides one-time emergency assistance to Cape Cod residents for basic human needs (food, rent, mortgage payments, utility bills, medical costs and other basic expenses). Call 508-778-5661 or 800-422-1446.

Personal Fundraising

These websites allow people to ask family, friends, and even strangers for help. Most charge a fee of about 3-5% of the proceeds. **Please carefully read the fee schedules and other terms of service for these sites.**

Some popular sites (in no particular order):

- YouCaring.com*
- GoFundMe.com*
- GoGetFunding.com
- Indiegogo.com
- Kickstarter.com

* Do not charge percentage fees, but do charge pay processing fees from services like PayPal.