

Human Services

General Information

The Northwood Human Services Department provides General Assistance to qualified individuals for basic living needs in accordance with N.H. R.S.A. 165 and the Town of Northwood General Assistance Guidelines and Basic Needs Policy. The Town of Northwood Human Services Guidelines was established to ensure that those residents who have a need for financial assistance can obtain funding from the Town in an appropriate manner. The objectives of these Guidelines are to provide assistance to those who qualify and to assist them in obtaining long-term financial security through other available resources.

Office Hours

Office hours are variable. Please call to schedule an appointment.

Contact Information

Human Services Department
818 First New Hampshire Turnpike
Northwood, NH 03261
Phone (603) 942-5586 ext. 2013
Fax (603) 942-9107
Email: adminassist@town.northwood.nh.us

Frequently Asked Questions:

What is the difference between State and Local Welfare?

State Welfare: The NH Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is a State Assistance program that provides Food Stamps, TANF/FAP (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families/Financial Assistance Program), Medicaid, APTD (Aid for the Permanent and Totally Disabled), help finding and paying for Child Care, OAA (Old Age Assistance), etc. to low-income families and individuals that qualify. If you live in Rockingham County, you may contact the Portsmouth District Office at (603) 895-0326 to find out if you are eligible for any of these programs. You may also apply online at NHEasy.nh.gov.

Local Welfare: Every city and town in New Hampshire has a local welfare office where an individual may apply for Temporary Emergency Assistance in compliance with RSA 165. NH Towns and Cities are required to assist people with such needs as food, rent, heat and utilities who live within their jurisdiction, have no other means of support, require temporary assistance, or whose bare minimum expenses exceeds their income. You can come to Town Hall to pick up an application or download one online from the town website. Then call the Human Services Department for an appointment.

Where can I find a local food pantry?

St. Joseph Church Parish Hall

Hours of Operation:

First Saturday of each month from 9:30 - 11:00.

Second Monday of each month from 2:00 - 3:30

Last Wednesday of each month from 9:00 - 10:30.

Contact Julie Roberts at: (603) 664-6937 for an appointment

What is WIC and how do I apply?

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) provides supplemental nutritious foods and nutrition education to pregnant and breastfeeding women. It also provides foods to infants and children up to 5 years of age. To participate, infants, children, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers must be determined "nutritionally at-risk" due to a dietary inadequacy or medical condition by a nutritionist, physician, or nurse. Participants must meet the income criteria. WIC provides infants with iron-fortified formula and cereal and with fruit juice rich in vitamin C. Infants and children with individual needs may be accommodated with special formulas. WIC provides women and children with milk, cheese, eggs, iron-fortified cereals, fruit juice rich in vitamin C, and peanut butter or dried peas and beans. WIC also provides nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and healthcare referrals.

WIC also administers the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP). This program provides supplemental foods to low-income seniors 60 years and older, and women and children up to 6 years old who are no longer eligible for WIC. For more information or to apply for WIC or CSFP, you may contact the WIC Nutrition Services Bureau at (603) 271-4546 or (800) WIC-4321 or if you live in Rockingham County you may contact the Rockingham Community Action Program at (603) 431-2911.

What is the Fuel Assistance Program (FAP) and how do I apply?

The Community Action Program provides income eligible households with assistance in paying home energy bills (oil, kerosene, natural gas, propane, wood, electricity, and/or coal) during the winter heating season. The FAP (Fuel Assistance Program) gives priority to households with at least one member who is elderly, disabled and/or has a child under age 6. Eligibility is based on household size, household income, and annual home energy costs. Homeowners and Renters (including renters with heat included) may be eligible for FAP. If you live in Rockingham County you may contact the Rockingham Community Action Program at (603) 431-2911 or (603) 895-2303.

Who can I call for assistance if I am Homeless or facing Homelessness?

Call Town of Northwood Human Services, the Coordinated Entry Program at (603) 435-2448 Monday through Friday 9:00 AM till 3:30 PM or after hours call 211.

If I have housing questions or want to apply for Public Housing, Subsidized Housing and/or Section 8?

For information about HUD Section 8 low-income housing and other statewide Housing Programs, please contact the NH Housing Finance Authority at (800) 439-7247.

Where can I find Childcare?

Call Southern NH Services at 885-393-1731.

Other Helpful Resources

211 Information Resource: (You can dial 211 on phone or go Online at 211 NH.) This is a searchable database of statewide services. They are also the people to call if you are homeless and need shelter at night or on the weekends.

Service Link: This agency works with the Elderly and Disabled. They will assist in getting services you need and are entitled to. They can be contacted at their Rochester office; (603) 332-7398 or in Concord at: (603)228-6625.

Rockingham Community Action: Administers Fuel Assistance and Electrical Discount programs for the State of NH. They also provide security deposits; help with utility and fuel bills, emergency rental assistance, weatherization and have a food pantry. Contact them in Raymond at (603)895-2303 or in Portsmouth at (603) 431-2911

New Hampshire Dept. of Employment Security: For unemployment benefit questions call (603)228-4100. For help finding employment contact; **New Hampshire Works** online or Portsmouth at: (603) 431-0384 or Somersworth at: (603) 742-4290.

Social Security Administration: Can help with issues or claims for, Social Security, Medicare, Supplemental Security and Social Security Disability Contact them in their Portsmouth office at; 888-397-9796 or in Concord at; 888-397-9798.

New Hampshire State Offices of Veterans Services: Help finding and accessing services for those who were in the military. (603) 624-9230.

Veterans Count: Care coordination and emergency assistance for service members, Veterans of all eras, those who have served in the military and their families. For help call (603) 315-4354.

Supportive Services for Veteran Families: Offers case management and temporary financial assistance to low-income NH veterans facing a housing crisis. Call (603) 882-3616.

SASS (Sexual Assault Support Services) 24-hour hotline at 800-747-7070. For those effected by sexual violence.

Ready Rides: Transportation for elderly and disabled for medical appointments. Call to arrange at: (603) 244-8719.

Lamprey Health Care: Primary care and health related services regardless of ability to pay. Raymond location: (603) 895-3351. Also has **Senior Transportation Program:** Provides rides for medical appointments, weekly shopping trips and recreational day trip Contact them at: (603) 659-2424.

Seacoast Mental Health: Located in Portsmouth. Can be contacted at: (603) 431-6703.

Riverbend Community Mental Health Center: Located in Concord. Can be contacted at: (603) 228-1551.

{These are Community Mental Health agencies that addresses mental health care needs in NH regardless of ability to pay}

Legal Advice and Referral Center (LARC): Free legal services to eligible, low-income people anywhere in NH. Call (603) 224-3333 or 1-800-639-5290. You can also apply for assistance on line at: nhlegalaid.org.