Food Pantry Assistance

A food pantry provides three-day food packages to families that have a place to live, but not enough food. These packages are designed to provide nutritionally balanced meals. Soup kitchens serve individuals in need of a hot meal, the only meal of the day for many of them.

St. Luke’s-San Lucas Episcopal Church
201 Washington Ave
Chelsea MA, 02150
(617) 884- 4278

Salvation Army
258 Chestnut Street
Chelsea Ma, 02150
(617) 884-0260

Community Action Programs Inner- City
(617)884- 6130
Cover all inner city

Emergency Food

Getting Food to Everyone In Need: Updates

Pop-Up Food Pantries are continuing to serve the people of Chelsea, providing boxes of food every weekday beginning at 11am. We are increasing our food supply daily so that everyone who needs food can get it. With this in mind, please be patient and mindful of your neighbors in need. Some families have more immediate need than others and we want to make sure that everyone gets to eat. Soon there will be enough for everyone.

Pop-up Pantry Locations:

Mondays:

Quigley Park, 25 Essex Street

Ruiz Park, 141 Washington Avenue

Tuesdays:

Luther Place, Cherry Street, between 5th Street and 4th Street
Bellingham Hill Park, 115 Bellingham Street

Wednesdays:

Washington Park, at Washington Ave and Hancock Street

Bosson Park, 43-56 Bellingham Street

Thursdays:

Chelsea Square, near 2 Second Street

Highland Park, in front of 30 Willow Street

Fridays:

City Hall Parking lot, 500 Broadway

Mary C. Burke Complex, 300 Crescent Avenue

There are additionally other options to get food:

IF YOU ARE NOT SICK AND NEED FOOD

- Monday-Friday: Hot lunches and kids lunches at 11:30am at Salvation Army (258 Chestnut Street)
- Tuesdays and Thursdays: Grocery pick-up 10 am-12 pm at the Salvation Army (258 Chestnut Street).
- Tuesdays and Thursdays: Grocery pick-up at 5 pm at the Chelsea Collaborative 318 Broadway).
- Thursdays and Fridays: Mass General Hospital Food For Families Pantry (151 Everett Avenue). Available 2X per month to MGH patients by referral. Please call (617) 887-3575.
- Saturdays: Grocery pick-up 8:30am-1pm at Saint Luke’s Episcopal Church (201 Washington Avenue, Chelsea); no appointment necessary.

IF YOU ARE IN ISOLATION AND NEED FOOD

Do not wait in line for food. Call 311 (617-466-4100).

IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN WHO NEED FOOD
Your children can receive free lunch and breakfast every weekday. Pick-up is 11:30 am-1 pm at these locations (pick the location closest to your home):

- Early Learning Center
- MCB Complex
- Williams School
- Clark Ave School
- Voke Park

IF YOU ARE 65 YEARS OR OLDER

Contact the Chelsea Senior Center for grocery deliveries. Call 617-466-4377 or 617-466-4370.

https://www.chelseama.gov/coronavirusupdates

Food Stamps
You may be eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) administers SNAP benefits. SNAP provides a monthly benefit to buy nutritious foods. To get SNAP, you must be low-income and be a U.S. citizen or legal noncitizen (restrictions apply).

Please click the link below to apply for assistance.

https://www.mass.gov/snap-benefits-formerly-food-stamps

Unemployment
In order to assist unemployed workers, and in order to address the many drastic impacts the current COVID-19 emergency is having on Massachusetts employers and workers, the Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) enacted emergency regulations on March 16, 2020, and has taken a number of other steps to assist you during the current COVID-19 emergency. Additionally, this week Governor Baker signed new legislation waiving the waiting week for unemployment benefits in cases related to COVID-19.

Please click the Link this will provide you all the additional information you may need.


Apply for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance
Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) provides up to 39 weeks of unemployment benefits to individuals who are unable to work because of a COVID-19-related reason but are not eligible for regular or extended unemployment benefits.
You should apply for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance retroactive to your first week of total or partial unemployment. Most regular UI claims are processed within 21-28 days after filing, and many are processed within the first week of filing.

**What you need**

**for Apply for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance**

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) provides payment to workers not traditionally eligible for unemployment benefits (self-employed, independent contractors, workers with limited work history, and others) who are unable to work as a direct result of the coronavirus public health emergency.

Applicants will need to provide the following information:

- Your social security number
- If you are not a citizen of the United States, your A Number (USCIS Number)
- Your residential address
- Your mailing address (if different from residential address)
- Your telephone number
- Your email address
- Your birth date
- Your wage records for 2019, which includes:
  - 1099 forms
  - Pay stubs
  - Bank statements
- The social security number(s) and date(s) of birth for your dependent child(ren)
- If you want to use direct deposit for payment, your bank account and routing numbers

**How to apply?**

Online:  
[https://ui-cares-act.mass.gov/PUA/](https://ui-cares-act.mass.gov/PUA/)  

Raft Program

The Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) homelessness prevention program has received a $5 million infusion of new funds from MassHousing to address needs related to COVID-19.

Learn more about the RAFT program on the Mass Coalition for the Homeless website and on Mass.gov.
Please note that for RAFT purposes, the definition of "family" includes all household sizes and configurations, such as households with children under 21, unaccompanied youth, elders, and people with disabilities.

See these flyers from the Mass Coalition for the Homeless about RAFT COVID-19 update in English and Spanish.

CAPIC

THE MISSION OF COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS INTER-CITY, INC. (CAPIC) IS TO IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS, ADVOCACY, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, THE NEEDS PROBLEMS, AND CONCERNS OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES TO EMPOWER THEM TO ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

During this difficult and rapidly changing time, CAPIC is focused on the health and well-being of our clients, staff, volunteers, and communities. As a result, we are adapting the way we normally conduct business and will continue to provide essential services to the best of our ability. We thank you for your continued support and we will continue to be here for those in need.

CAPIC’s main office in CHELSEA will be CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC THRU April 30, 2020. Staff will be available via phone and email but there will be NO IN-PERSON APPOINTMENTS OR WALK-INS for any programs. Please call 617-884-6130 for more information and to make alternate arrangements for service(s). We thank you for your cooperation during this critical time.

**CAPIC FUEL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM UPDATE. APPLICATION DEADLINE EXTENDED UNTIL MAY 29, 2020.**

CAPIC has closed our office to all employees through 4/27/2020. The Fuel Assistance and Heating System Programs will continue to run remotely on a partially limited basis. Clients are still able to reach a live person for Fuel Assistance from 8:30AM – 4:30PM Monday – Friday. First-Time Fuel Assistance applications are being done over the phone. Clients are encouraged to mail in their application documents to CAPIC’s main office during this time. Application processing will resume once the main office re-opens on 4/27/2020. The Fuel Assistance application deadline has also been extended to 5/27/2020. Client’s who are experiencing a no-heat heating system emergency or a non-working refrigerator emergency should call CAPIC’s emergency line at 617-884-6130, ext. 1042.

CAPIC’s After School and Child Development Center Programs will be closed March 16, 2020 – May 4, 2020. After School and Child Development Center families can call the centers at 617-889-9929.

Due to the COVID-19 situation, CAPIC Head Start has taken the precautionary measure of closing all centers beginning March 13, 2020. We will continue to be in touch with local and state health and
government agencies and continue to update the anticipated date for reopening centers. Head Start’s leadership, Family Advocates and Teachers will be available by telephone during the closure to continue providing support to families. Head Start families should call the center (617-889-5690) and leave a message or their Family Advocate, as needed, during the closure. Below you will find a link that will provide more information regarding Programs CAPIC offers.

http://www.capicinc.org/Eng/E_About.html#

GBLS SERVICES DURING THE CORONAVIRUS

GBLS staff are working from outside of our office due to the coronavirus. We are committed to continuing our work on behalf of low-income families and individuals during this crisis.

GBLS helps people regardless of their documentation status in all of our work.

Every year Greater Boston Legal Services helps more than 10,000 low-income families and individuals solve their civil (non-criminal) legal problems. We represent our clients in court, at appeals, in hearings before administrative law judges, and with advice and paperwork, both as individuals and through partnerships with community organizations. We have a special focus on “impact litigation” and our attorneys have frequently submitted appellate briefs and appeared before the state’s highest court.

GBLS staff provide trainings across the state and at national conferences to low-income families, social services agencies, and legal aid organizations. In addition to direct client services, GBLS engages in legislative and systemic law reform advocacy in an effort to help all residents of the Commonwealth.

https://www.gbls.org/

Contact the Attorney General’s Office
The Attorney General’s office is able to help address a broad range of issues. Find the best way to contact the office for the matter you would like to addressed.

You can file online, call, or email with staffs and team working at the attorney general’s office depending on the issue or topic you would like to discuss.

https://www.mass.gov/contact-the-attorney-generals-office

COVID-19
The Massachusetts Department of Public Health continues to respond aggressively to COVID-19 and keep our residents updated, informed, and safe during this challenging time. Here you will find updates on case counts, testing, guidance, and resources regarding our public health response to COVID-19 in the Commonwealth.

To learn about all aspects of the Massachusetts COVID-19 response, visit mass.gov/covid19.

View today's current cases in Massachusetts and learn more about COVID-19 in the list below.