

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING

2019 HOME ENERGY, HOUSING & EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE SERVICES GUIDE

(Services are dependent on availability of funding)

Heating and/or Electrical Assistance Programs

Heating Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) – The HEAP Program is a federally funded program governed by the New York State Department of Social Services. It is administered on the local level and provides financial assistance to eligible households for energy needs. Households in which one member is receiving TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE or FOOD STAMPS and certain SSI recipients are categorically income eligible. Other households are income tested. The regular HEAP season begins in November and lasts until the federal funding runs out. Furnace replacement may run throughout the year.

Contact Bobbie Kitts, Principal Social Welfare Examiner: (315) 379-2297

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Summer Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Care and Share – Assistance with energy related problems: hot water heater repair or replacement, furnace repair, electric shut off, heat shut off. The program will mainly pay a portion of a qualified applicants winter heating and gas bills and it is available for those families that have no other options available to them. So that means the applicant needs to have applied for government assistance, worked with other local non-profits and charities, and have taken other steps before Care and Share may be able to help them. The enrollment period will start during the December or January time frame. People that live in upstate, central, and western New York may be able to apply at that time, provided they meet the conditions of the program. **Contact: Senator Patricia Ritchie, 330 Ford Street, Ogdensburg, NY 13669, (315-393-3024); Canton Neighborhood Center, 5 West Canton Street, Canton, NY 13617, (315-386-3541); Massena Neighborhood Center, 61 Beach Street, Massena, NY 13662, (315-764-0050); Potsdam Neighborhood Center, 2 Park Street, Potsdam, NY 13676, (315-265-3920); Gouverneur Neighborhood Center, 15 Rock Island Street, Gouverneur, NY 13642, call (315-287-3370); Ogdensburg Neighborhood Center, Ford Street City Hall, Ogdensburg, NY 13669 phone (315-393-5561); Colton/Pierrepoint/Parishville; Neighborhood Center (3 Sites) include Colton Community Center (phone 315-262-3175), Pierrepoint Town Hall (dial 315-386-8311) and also Parishville Town Hall (telephone 315-265-6180).**

Weatherization Program – Provides assistance to homeowners and renters in making their houses more energy efficient. Weatherization measures include window and door replacement, attic and sidewall insulation, health and safety measures including smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, furnace cleaning and tuning.

Eligibility: Saint Lawrence County residents that meet income guidelines; call for details

Application Process: Call for information and application

Required Documentation: Call for required documentation

Fees: None

Hours: Open Monday through Friday 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Contact St. Lawrence County Community Development Program (CDP) (315) 386-1102.

EmPower NY (*NYSERDA Program*) – Low income homeowner/renters National Grid Customers may apply. Provides cost-effective energy efficiency measures, mostly lighting, refrigerator replacements, insulation and air sealing, which will lower the cost of energy for qualified customers. Services delivered by local contractors and appliance vendors.

Contact: EmPower NY at 1-800-263-0960 or Office for the Aging (*if age 60+*) at (315) 386-4730.

Hours: Open from Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM.

***EmPower New York Income Eligibility Guidelines 2019**

Household Size	Maximum Gross Monthly Income	Maximum Gross Annual Income
1	\$2,391	\$28,692
2	\$3,127	\$37,524
3	\$3,863	\$46,356
4	\$4,598	\$55,176
5	\$5,334	\$64,008
6	\$6,070	\$72,840
7	\$6,343	\$76,120
8	\$7,063	\$84,760
9	\$7,783	\$93,400
10	\$8,503	\$102,040

Assisted Home Performance (*NYSERDA Program*) - It provides those who qualify with a discount covering 50% of the cost of eligible energy efficiency improvements up to \$4,000 per project for single-family homes. Two- to four-unit residential homes with income-eligible residents may qualify for a discount of up to \$8,000

Contact Energy: 518- 862-1090 or 866-NYSERDA

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM.

***Income Guidelines of 2019**

St. Lawrence County	
Income Limits	
1 Person	\$38,256.00
2 Person	\$50,032.00
3 Person	\$61,808.00
4 Person	\$73,568.00
5 Person	\$85,344.00
6 Person	\$97,120.00
7 Person	\$101,493.00
8 Person	\$113,013.00
9 Person	\$124,533.00
10 Person	\$136,053.00

Emergency Assistance

Catholic Charities - Assistance with payment of utility bills to prevent disconnect, assistance with prescriptions, infant clothing and diapers.

Contact: (315) 393-2660

Hours: Open Monday through Thursday from 9:30 AM – 4:00 PM and by appointment.

St. Lawrence County Community Development Program (CDP) –

FEMA funds for one time, last resort, assistance for rent, a mortgage payment to prevent foreclosure, utilities and food. Must be an emergency or facing an eviction. St. Lawrence County CDP operates 6 neighborhood centers throughout the county. The centers are staffed by a Director and provide services to low-income families with the assistance of community volunteers. Each center has a food pantry and assists with food and other emergencies such as utilities, fuel and shelter. The Directors work with families in the area of family development, budgeting, education and job obtainment.

Neighborhood Centers:

Canton Neighborhood Center:

5 West Street #2
Canton, NY 13617
(315) 386-3541

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM, no appointment necessary. Closed the first Friday of the month. Open from 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM by appointment only. Open for emergencies.

- The Canton Neighborhood Center Food Pantry serves the townships of Clare, Crary Mills, DeGrasse, DeKalb, Hermon, Pyrites, certain areas of Rensselaer Falls, and Russell; this is a Food Sense pick-up location, as well.

Colton/Pierrepont/Parishville Neighborhood Center:

Colton Community Center- (315) 262-3175
Pierrepont Town Hall- (315) 386-8311
Parishville Town Hall- (315) 265-6180

Gouverneur Neighborhood Center:

15 Rock Island Street
Gouverneur, NY 13642
(315) 287-3370

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 12 PM and from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM. It is open from 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM by appointment only. Closed the first Friday of each month.

- The Gouverneur Neighborhood Center serves the townships of Gouverneur, Balmat, Clifton, Cranberry Lake, Edwards, Star Lake, Fine, Fowler, Harrisville, Macomb, Oswegatchie, Piercefield, Pitcairn, Richville, and Rossie.

Massena Neighborhood Center:

61 Beach Street #103
Massena, NY 13662
(315) 764-0050

Hours: Open Monday through Friday 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM; closed 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM daily for lunch. Also, closed the first Friday of each month and every major holiday.

- The Massena Neighborhood Center serves the townships of Massena, Louisville, Raymondville, Norfolk, Brasher Falls, Helena, North Lawrence, Lawrenceville, and Rooseveltown. In case of an emergency after the Neighborhood Center's regular hours, call (315) 265-2422.

Ogdensburg Neighborhood Center:

330 Ford Street
Ogdensburg, NY 13669
(315) 393-5561

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM and from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM. The pantry is closed the first Friday of each month, and open by appointment for emergencies.

- The Ogdensburg Neighborhood Center serves the townships of Ogdensburg, Brier Hill, Hammond, Heuvelton, Lisbon, Morristown, Rensselaer Falls, and Waddington. It is open daily to the public to assist low-income families, and is open by appointment in the case of an emergency.

Potsdam Neighborhood Center:

2 Park Street
Potsdam, NY 13676
(315) 265-3920

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM and from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM. Open from 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM by appointment only; call ahead to schedule.

*This is a Food Sense pick-up location. Contact the center at (315) 265-3920 with questions about this service from the Food Bank of Central New York.

- The Potsdam Neighborhood Center Serves the townships of Chase Mills, Fort Jackson, Hopkinton, Nicholville, Norwood, Madrid, Stockholm, and Winthrop.

Ministry in the North Country (*MINC*) - MINC provides emergency assistance to low to moderate income households on a case-by-case basis. Heating assistance, electric shut off assistance, assistance with prescriptions and additional emergency assistance deemed necessary case by case. Also has a private rural rehabilitation program during the summer months. In St. Lawrence County and Jefferson County.

Contact: 311 Franklin Street, Room B, Ogdensburg, NY 13669, (315) 713-4343

Salvation Army - Food pantry, rent assistance, utility/fuel assistance, prescription assistance, disaster services, counseling, budgeting classes, youth and after school programs, adult programs and thrift store.

Salvation Army in Ogdensburg:

401 Franklin Street
Ogdensburg, NY 13669
(315) 393-3351

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

Eligibility: St. Lawrence County Residents.

Salvation Army in Massena:

178 Victory Road
Massena, NY 13662
(315) 769-5154

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

Eligibility: Residents of Bombay, Brasher Falls, Chase Mills, Raymondville, Rooseveltown, and Waddington.

Canton Church & Community Worker Program - Emergency food assistance and thrift shop. School supplies, holiday giving tree gifts and food program are also available for low-income individuals and families. Assistance for housing dependent on the availability of funds. No Christmas meal. Referrals to other assistance agencies.

Servicing Canton, Hermon, Clare, DeKalb, Russell and Rensselaer Falls. Contact: (315) 386-3534.

Hours: The Food Pantry is opened Tuesday through Thursday from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. The Thrift Shop is open Monday through Friday from 9:30 AM – 4:00 PM.

Helping Hands of Potsdam, Inc. - Food pantry, home goods and furniture available and provides assistance with heating fuel, gasoline, utilities, and prescriptions when possible. Lunch is served on-site (5868 State Route 56, Potsdam, NY) Monday through Thursday @ 12:00 noon.

Serving all of St. Lawrence County regarding home goods and furniture. All other services available to all of Eastern St. Lawrence County with the exception of the Massena Area.

Contact: Tom Chappell, (315) 268-0633

Hours: Open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM – 1:30 PM.

St. Mary's Cathedral / St. Vincent de Paul Society - Limited assistance with non-narcotic prescriptions, gas for out of town doctor appointments, and utilities (*gas, electric, fuel oil, propane, and wood*).

Serving Ogdensburg, Heuvelton, Lisbon, Morristown. Contact: (315) 393-3930

Emergency Assistance (continued)

St. Vincent de Paul Massena – Office and food pantry serving Massena, Louisville, Chase Mills, and Rooseveltown residents Mon-Fri 10-3:00. The third Saturday of every month (9-10:30 am) general food pantry for all St. Lawrence County residents. (*dependent on food availability, call ahead*). Depending on funding, may help with last resort assistance with rent and utility emergencies, gas for transportation to medical appointments and prescription assistance in Massena, Louisville, Chase Mills, Rooseveltown, Norfolk, Raymondville and Tri-town area. Thrift store is open to the public Monday through Friday 10:00-3:45. **Contact: (315) 769-1200**

Hours: Food pantry and office hours are Monday through Friday from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM; store is open Monday through Friday from 10:00 AM – 3:45 PM. Call to set up an appointment or to learn when the next food distribution is.

St. Vincent de Paul Notre Dame - Limited assistance for emergencies only for Ogdensburg and surrounding communities.
Contact: (315) 393-5050

Hours: Open Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM.

Massena Independent Living Center - Assisting disabled towards independence. Services available: advocacy, benefits advisement, homeless prevention program, architectural assessments for handicap accessibility, peer counseling, independent living skills training, vocational assistance, etc.. Loan closet for medical assistance (*wheelchairs, crutches*)
Contact: (315) 764-9442

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM.

Local Churches - Each Church has different levels of assistance for residents of their community.
Contact: check your local listings

Department Of Social Services - Many programs available to those who qualify, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (*SNAP*) (*formerly the Food Stamp program*).
Contact: (315) 379-2111

Hours: Open Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Summer Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Property Tax Relief Programs - Contact local Tax Assessor for the following programs

STAR- The New York State School Tax Relief Program (STAR) provides for a partial property tax exemption from school taxes for all New Yorkers who own and live in their homes. The **Enhanced STAR exemption** is available for **eligible property owners (name on deed) who are 65 and older**. This benefit must be applied for with the local assessor by March 1st (or April 1st for the City of Ogdensburg) to receive the exemption for the school tax that fall.

Partial Tax Exemption for Real Property of Senior Citizens-Individuals generally must be 65 years of age or older and meet certain income limitations and other requirements. The application for the Older Adult Exemption also will serve as an application for the Enhanced STAR. **Localities and school districts have the option whether or not to offer this exemption.**

Veterans Property Tax Exemption- Veterans can receive a partial property tax exemption for those homeowners meeting qualifying veteran's criteria.
Contact your local tax assessor or St. Lawrence County Veterans Dept. (315) 386-4754

Real Property Tax Exemption for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Resources: Localities have the option of giving exemptions to persons with disabilities based on income with a "sliding scale" option.

Home Repairs and Modifications

St. Lawrence County Community Development Program – Grant funded programs. Eligibility and services vary by program and funding. **Contact: (315) 386-1102**

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

North Country Affordable Housing - Mobile Home Replacement Program and homeowner counseling, new home construction program, and first home buyers club.
Contact: 1-866-653-8724 or (315) 785-8684 Website: www.northcountryaffordablehousing.com

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

North Country Housing Council - Loans, deferred loans, and counseling for home rehabilitation, energy efficiency, and purchase in **selected** areas. Income and eligibility requirements. **Contact: (315) 386-8576**

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

USDA Rural Economic Development - Loans and grants to assist low-income households for home repairs, improvements, or to remove health and safety hazards. **Contact: (315) 386-2401 ext. 4**

Community Development Program of Gouverneur: Within village limits only. Home repair assistance to low income homeowners and landlords. **Contact: (315) 287-1720 ext. 7**

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

Massena Rehabilitation – Home repair assistance for those who live within the **village** limits. Funding priority to the very low income, fixed income population with serious code violations and health and safety hazards. Focus is on the elderly, frail and disabled.

Contact: (315) 769-6803

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

Mohawk Indian Housing Corp- Service area: Akwesasne Mohawk Reservation, Rooseveltown, Massena, Fort Covington, and Hogansburg. Home improvement for low-income residents offering home repairs to income eligible homeowners who will reside in the home five years after work completion.

Contact: (518) 358-4860

Hours: Open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Potsdam Planning and Development Office - Home repair assistance for those who live within the **village and town** limits. Funding priority to the very low income, fixed income population with serious code violations and health and safety hazards. Focus is on the elderly, frail and disabled.

Contact: (315) 265-3045

Call your Town Clerk for other local programs

(ofa/resource guides/home energy and emergency services guide revised March 2019)