Resource Guide

Generated November 21, 2026 · 5 open facilities · closed facilities are not listed · call before you go: details change quickly

MA

Baby's Breath Crisis Nursery (Baby Emergency Shelter)

Shelter · Open

Shelter: Youth

77 Mulberry Street, Leicester, MA 01524

Phone 508.892.0009
Contact Deanna Saint Souver, MSW, LCSW,Executive Director
Email info@babysbreathhome.org
Web www.babysbreathhome.org/whatwedo
Hours 24 hours/7 days a week
Service Temporary

Parents & Caregivers,
You are not alone...
Are you concerned for your child?
Do you need help caring for your child for a few days or weeks?

Families may voluntarily bring their children to Baby's Breath Crisis Nursery for a variety of reasons:

Family Medical Emergencies
Domestic Violence Situations
Accidents
Homelessness
Mental Health Emergencies
Substance Abuse Emergencies
Legal Emergencies
Overwhelming Parental Stress
Lack of Utilities, Food or Shelter

We provide free confidential help any time of the day or the night to residents of Worcester and surrounding communities.

WISH LIST:

We are presently seeking the following donations in gently used or new condition:

Multi Passenger Van for transporting children to and from Crisis Nursery
Smocks for art projects

Children's Clothing ages 3–10 years old
CPR Mannequins: adult, child and infant.
Infant/Adult Automatic External Defibrillator
Thermo Scan Unit
Bath Towels
6 Seated Baby Buggy Stroller
Older children toys/games (ages 8 - 10)
Unopened Playtex drop in bottles, liners and nipples
Diapers
Children's Underwear
Dreft Laundry Detergent or Ivory Snow
Child's Table and Chairs
Twin sized or smaller pillows
Hair Brushes (not baby hairbrushes)
Toothpaste
Outside Storage Shed for Toys
Non– laytex Gloves
Infant Tylenol
Baby Skin care products
Gift cards for incidentals in any denomination for Walmart, Stop and Shop, Price Chopper, Shaws, BJs, Sam's Club, Babies"R"Us, Stop & Shop, Target, etc..

List updated: 11/03/09

Services offered: Clothing, Baby/Infant Clothing, NEW Only * (ANY/ALL Types); Clothing, Baby/Infant, New or Gently Used/ CLEAN * (ANY/ALL Types); Housing, Transitional Housing (For Battered Women/Children); OTC, Medicine, Baby/Infant/Children * (ANY/ALL Types) ; Services, Family, Children, Emergency Child Care; Services, Women's Services; Shelter * (ANY/ALL

Types); Shelter, Emergency Shelter; Shelter, Emergency Shelter, Youth Focused
Updated Dec 17, 2009 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/4807

Worcester County Food Bank

Warehouse · Open

Food Bank

474 Boston Turnpike Road, Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Phone	508–842–3663
Web	www.foodbank.org
Hours	Mon – Fri 8:00 – 4:00
Checks payable to	Worcester County Food Bank
Service	Temporary

Worcester County Food Bank, Inc.
474 Boston Turnpike
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
Phone: 508–842–3663
Fax: 508–842–7405
Executive Director: Jean G. McMurray
Email: lpaire@secondharvest.org
Web Site: www.foodbank.org
Media Contact: Jean G. McMurray
Title: Executive Director
Phone: 508–842–3663
Email: jmcmurray@secondharvest.org

Population served
Number of counties served: 1
Total pounds of food distributed annually: 5,014,577

Types and number of services agencies distributing food
Emergency: 98
Soup Kitchen: 6
Shelter: 12
Residence: 33
Day Care: 5
Multi–service: 0
Senior: 3
Rehabilitation: 54
Youth Programs: 48
Other Programs: 2

Basic programs being run (i.e. CK, KC, produce, job training)
Basic Food Bank, Food Prep, Produce Prog, Dir Serv, Job Training, Kids Cafe, Community Kitchen, Salv, Purch, TEFAP, Nutrition Education, Brown Bag

Volunteers

The Worcester County Food Bank offers the following volunteer opportunities to individuals and small groups:

Sorting and inspecting donated food and grocery product

Food drives

Special events as needed

Most of our volunteers help sort donated food and grocery product. Our volunteers have a direct impact on people who are hungry in Worcester County. They sort approximately 2 million pounds of food per year, which is then distributed to emergency–feeding programs located throughout Worcester County.

We encourage volunteers to come in once a week for 2–3 hours.

The Food Bank is open for volunteering Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 4 PM.

Hours include: Special Saturday hours.

Please contact us at 508–842–3663 to learn about our Saturday hours.

Minimum age for volunteering is 13. Volunteers under 16 years of age must be supervised by an adult.

All volunteers are required to complete an application, participate in orientation, and schedule hours in advance.

Please contact the Food Bank at info@foodbank.org or 508–842–3663 for more information about volunteering.

If we are unable to accommodate your volunteer needs at the present time, you may want to refer to the Community Harvest Project's website: www.fftn.org

All of the produce grown by the Community Harvest Project is donated to the Worcester County Food Bank for distribution throughout Worcester County.

We Depend On Volunteers . . . We Depend On You!

The Worcester County Food Bank works in partnership with non–profit programs located in 60 communities (a network of 216 partner agencies) throughout Worcester County to provide emergency food assistance to individuals and families. To locate a program in your area, please call the Food Bank at 508–842–3663 or go to their website and click on the link "immediate help", upper right. Then choose "program listing". Or just go back and choose "advanced search" above and search this database for listings in your area.

Services offered: Demographic Served: Low Income Folks; Food Distribution, Food Bank ONLY (No Walk–In Service); Food Distribution, Food Bank (This Site Supplies Food Pantries/Agencies); Food Distribution, Meals, Soup Kitchen; Hotline, Food Bank/Pantry Hotline (Find Emergency Food Help); Meals * (ANY/ALL Types) ; Services, Family, Children, Child Care Program; Services, Senior/Elderly Services; Shelter, Homeless Shelter; Volunteer Opportunities, In General * (ANY/ALL Types); Volunteers, Elder/Senior Volunteers (This facility accomodates Elder Volunteers); Volunteers, Groups of Volunteers (This facility accomodates Groups of Volunteers); Volunteers, Individual Volunteers (This facility accomodates Individuals Volunteers); Volunteers, Teen Volunteers (This facility accomodates Teen Volunteers); Volunteers, Youth Volunteers (This facility accomodates Youth Volunteers) ; Warehouse, Warehouse Space; Youth Program
Campaigns: America's Second Harvest
Updated Jun 1, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/1057

Abby's House

Shelter · Open

Non–Profit
52 High St., Worcester, MA 01609
Phone (508) 756–5486
Web www.abbyshouse.org
Service Temporary

Abby Kelley Foster House, Inc. (Abby's House) was incorporated in 1976, and that year it opened one of the first overnight emergency shelters for women with or without children in the U.S. Abby's House was formed at the beginning of the battered women's movement there were no paradigms to follow in organizational development. Instead, the volunteers who ran the shelter listened carefully to the needs of the women and responded accordingly. The spirit of empowerment, sisterhood and mutuality embodied by the original volunteer activists continues to inform program delivery today.

Abby's House Facts

Abby's House is committed to ending homelessness, and in this spirit we have not expanded shelter services, rather we have greatly expanded our management of service–enriched, affordable housing. Beginning by renovating a former crack house into 16 beautiful, safe units of housing next to the emergency shelter, Abby's House now manages 78 units of housing in three locations near downtown Worcester, Massachusetts.

Every year at Abby's House

About 300 women and children stay in our emergency shelter, where they work with an advocate to achieve short–term goals and the stability needed to prevent future homelessness; over 100 women and children live in our long–term, service–enriched housing, where they work with advocates to achieve the highest possible level of independence; thousands of women speak with our emergency shelter advocate and obtain counseling and information on domestic violence and on emergency housing options; over 100 women access our Women's Center providing homelessness prevention programming to current and former shelter guests and residents; thousands of meals are served, and celebratory feasts are held at major holidays, including International Women’s Day; thousands of community members receive our newsletter, A Bright Spot in the City, and many community groups hear Abby's House speakers talk about issues of women living in poverty; about 200 active and enthusiastic volunteers receive training that will help them to provide welcome and a sense of safety to women and children who are trauma survivors.

Abby's House collaborates with many organizations in the community that provide specific services, such as: housing, legal services, mental and physical health services; and education.

We provide our programs with the financial support of individuals, community groups, private foundations, family foundations and corporations. Eighty–nine cents of every dollar donated to Abby's House goes directly to programs for homeless and battered women and children.

Services offered: Counseling, Crisis Counseling; Counseling, Domestic Abuse Support; Furniture * (ANY/ALL Types); Shelter, Homeless Shelter; Shelter, Women's Shelter; Thrift Store
Updated Nov 13, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/1048

AIDS Project Worcester

Walk–in Resource · Open

Non–Profit
85 Green St., Worcester, MA
Web www.aidsprojectworcester.org

Distributes food boxes weekly and holiday meals for people with HIV and their families; provides case management and alternative therapy services, peer support, adoption and foster care program.

Services offered: Advocacy, Volunteer, Resource Referrals; Assistance, Referrals, Housing, Housing Resource Referrals; Deodorant; Food Distribution, Food Pantry (Distributes to the Public); Meals, Congregate Feeding, Meals; Meals, Mobile Meals; Services, Legal Assistance; Toiletries * (ANY/ALL Types); Toothpaste; Translators, Spanish/English, Volunteers; Transportation, Transportation Advice, Finding Transportation, Volunteer ; Tutor, Tutoring, Volunteer; Vouchers, Food Vouchers
Updated Oct 10, 2007 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/1019

Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance (CMHA) ~ Donations Clearinghouse (DCH)

Walk–in Resource · Open

7–11 Bellevue Street, Worcester, MA 01609
Phone (508) 791–7265
Web www.cmhaonline.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=54&Itemid=105
Eligibility Referral by Caseworker
Service Temporary

Furniture and other household goods available.

Walk–Ins Schedule:

Tuesdays, 9:30am–11:30am & 1:00pm–4:00pm
Wednesdays, 1:00pm–4:00pm
Thursdays, 9:30am–11:30am & 1:00pm–4:00pm

No Monday or Friday walk–in Hours

Eligibility:

Moving from Shelter to Permanent Housing
Domestic Violence
DSS Reunification
Elders At Risk
Fire and/or Flood Victim

Home repairs

Worcester senior homeowners can get help with home repairs from the Elder Home Repair program of the Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance (CMHA). To qualify, homeowners must:

* be 60 years of age or older
* live in the house that needs repair
* need home repairs to correct unsafe housing

Elder Home Repair will make basic repairs, such as fixing stairs, doors, and ceilings, or minor plumbing and electrical problems. In most cases, homeowners must provide or pay for materials. Labor is free, but contributions are welcome.

To apply, call the Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance (CMHA) at 508–755–1105. Repairs are usually scheduled on a first come, first served basis, unless there is an emergency. For more information, see Elder Home Repair.

Pet care

Cat and dog owners who cannot afford medical care for their pets can get help from the Second Chance Fund for Animal Welfare (SCFAW). SCFAW provides help in these ways:

*

Spaying and neutering: SCFAW has "CatSNIP" spay/neuter clinics for pet cats, and a spay/neuter clinic and voucher program for stray/feral cats. Vaccinations are also provided if needed. Dog owners are referred to the Clinton Veterinary Hospital Canine Voucher Program.

Fees are affordable. For a schedule of fees and more information, see CatSNIP Clinics.
*

Medical care for seriously ill or injured pets: Scratch's Patch–Up Fund (SPUF) helps pet owners whose dogs or cats are facing a medical crisis and who do not have the money to pay for the care their pets need. Pet owners must meet income limits and other requirements. Approval may take up to two weeks, so SPUF cannot usually help in emergency situations.
*

Support for caregivers of homeless or feral cats: SCFAW provides traps, guidance, and financial assistance for the spaying/neutering of homeless or feral cats. See Feral Cat Services for more information.
*

General support: SCFAW gives referrals and guidance to pet owners who must surrender their pets, or who need advice about caring for their pets.

To apply for financial help for spaying/neutering or SPUF medical care, you must fill out a Request for Pet Services. You can fill out the application and submit it online:

* SCFAW Vet Service Request – Online Form

For questions or support, call the Second Chance Fund for Animal Welfare hotline at 978–779–8287, or e–mail SCFAW at scfawcontactus@gmail.com.

For more information, visit the Second Chance Fund for Animal Welfare web site.

Snow shoveling

Worcester requires property owners to clear snow and ice from their sidewalks within 10 hours after it stops snowing. The cleared path must be at least 4 feet wide. Residents who don't shovel their walks currently face a $75 per day fine.

If you are not able to shovel your own walks, you can get help from:

*

Worcester Snow Shoveling – Division of Elder Affairs:

Worcester residents, age 60 or older, who need help shoveling their walks and entranceways can get assistance from the city's Elder Affairs Division. Priority is given to residents with an urgent need for snow removal, such as medical appointments, access for caregivers, or citations for violating the city's snow removal ordinance.

Elder Affairs works with agencies such as the Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance to provide snow removal services. To apply, call:
o Division of Elder Affairs: 508–799–1232

o Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance: 508–755–1105 (CMHA Elder Home Maintenance)

In some cases, you may be asked to pay a small fee for services. The Elder Home Maintenance program also provides other maintenance services such as mowing the lawn and cleaning rain gutters.
*

Community organizations:

Worcester homeowners can get a referral for snow removal by calling the Worcester Department of Public Works (DPW) at 508–929–1300 or using the referral list on the DPW Sidewalk Snow Removal web page. Elderly homeowners and homeowners with disabilities can get free services. Other homeowners may have to pay a fee or donation.

Wheelchair ramps

Worcester residents with disabilities who need a wheelchair ramp to make their homes accessible may be able to get help from the Handicap Ramp Program:

* The Handicap Ramp Program is a community service partnership between local labor unions, such as the Worcester Firefighters "Ramp Gang" and Carpenters Local 107, and the United Way of Central Massachusetts.

Labor union workers donate their time and supplies to build handicap ramps for homebound residents of Worcester and other Central Massachusetts communities. The homeowners do not have to pay anything for the ramps. Ramps can be built throughout the year.

To apply, call the AFL/CIO Community Services Handicap Ramp Program at 508–757–5632.

If you cannot get a free wheelchair ramp, you may be able to get a loan to pay for the ramp:

*

The Home Modification Loan Program gives loans to elders and people with disabilities to modify their homes so they can live independently.

Depending on your income, you may be eligible for a deferred payment loan that does not have to be repaid until you sell your house, or an amortized low interest loan. For income guidelines, see HMLP: Who Is Eligible?.

You can get an application and instructions on the HMLP web site HMLP: How Do I Apply?. For more information, see Home Modification Loan Program.

Services offered: Animals, Animal Care Services * (ANY/ALL Types); Animals, Medical, Spay / Neuter Program; Assistance * (ANY Type of: Referrals or "How to" Assistance); Assistance, Referrals * General Information & Referral; Assistance, Referrals, Housing, Housing Referrals (For Seniors/Elders); Assistance, Referrals, Information & Referral (For Seniors/Elders); Construction, Home Repair Services (For Seniors/Elders); Donations, Drop–Off, Collection Site Location; Donations, Pickup, Pick Up Service; Donations, Pickup, Pick Up Service, Large Item Donation Pickup; Drivers, Local Pickup / Delivery, Volunteer; Elder Support, Volunteer; Financial Assistance, ** Financial Assistance (ANY/ALL Types); Financial Assistance, Utility Bill Assistance (For Seniors/Elders); Furniture, Furniture Bank; Medical, Equipment, Wheelchair Ramp; Services *0* (Choose this if You Provide or Need ANY Type of Social Services); Services, Emergency Services, Senior/Elder; Services, Senior/Elderly Services; Services, Senior Programs; Services, Seniors, Lawn Care Services (For Seniors/Elderly); Services, Seniors, Snow Shoveling; Transportation * (ANY/ALL Types); Vehicle, Truck * (ANY/ALL Types); Vehicle, Truck, Box Truck

Updated Aug 3, 2011 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/4703