Updated May 2020

Suffolk County District Attorney RACHAEL ROLLINS



COVID-19 Resource Guide

About This Guide

This is a collection of resources currently available in Suffolk County, MA, compiled by the staff of the Juvenile Alternative Resolution Program (JAR) of the Juvenile Unit at the Office of Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins. It is not a complete list, and you should continue to consult relevant experts and your care providers when appropriate. This guide is intended to be a starting point for residents and service providers for finding resources to assist during the COVID-19 National Emergency. Our current circumstances are fluid and evolving; information, services, and recommendations may change over time. We advise you to contact any of the included services outlined here ahead of time to ensure up-to-date accuracy.

COVID-19: The Basics

What is COVID-19? It is a newly identified virus that causes respiratory illness. It can be transmitted from person to person, which is why hand-washing and avoiding unnecessary contact with other people is so important to stop the spread.

What are the symptoms? The most common presentation of the virus is a mild to severe respiratory illness, including fever, cough, and shortness of breath.

How can I prevent myself from getting sick? Follow city and state protocols regarding social distancing (staying at home as much as possible and staying at least 6 feet away from others). Avoid close contact with people who are sick, practice good hand washing, and avoid touching your face with unwashed hands. Clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces regularly and cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or elbow when you cough or sneeze. Contact your primary care physician to seek medical guidance if you develop respiratory illness symptoms, and call 911 for medical emergencies.

Where can I get more information? The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health release daily updates on their websites:

https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

For Comprehensive Information about COVID-19 in 57 Different Languages:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1KmaFpW-NFoKy8 D0JrNKpUsNb15MFkSk

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If this guide does not have the information you need:

Call Mass 2-1-1 for assistance navigating resources and social services or visit

https://mass211.org/

Massachusetts COVID-19 Regulations & Guidance

Massachusetts and individual cities have released various regulations and guidance measures throughout the COVID-19 emergency. It is important to stay up-to-date and aware of the most recent regulations to ensure safety and avoid any penalty.

Massachusetts Statewide Updates: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-prevention-and-

treatment#latest-guidance-

Boston Updates: https://www.boston.gov/news/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-boston

Chelsea Updates: https://www.chelseama.gov/coronavirusupdates

Revere Updates: https://www.revere.org/departments/public-health-division/coronavirus

Winthrop Updates: https://www.town.winthrop.ma.us/home/urgent-alerts/covid-19-public-health-updates

Stay at Home Advisory

On March 24th, the Department of Public Health released a Public Health Advisory which includes a stay-at-home advisory. It is not illegal to leave home, but staying home as much as possible is strongly recommendation for safety precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Staying home means only leaving home for essential errands such as going to the grocery store or pharmacy and practicing safe social distancing (staying at least 6 feet away from others) when in public.

For more information: https://www.mass.gov/news/dph-public-health-advisory-stay-at-home-advisory

Gatherings Restrictions

On March 23rd, Governor Baker issued an emergency order prohibiting most gatherings of over 10 people in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. On April 28th the order was extended and remains in effect. For the emergency order and more information:

https://www.mass.gov/doc/march-23-2020-essential-services-and-revised-gatherings-order/

Face Masks and Fabric Face Coverings Advisory

Governor Baker issued an order effective Wednesday, May 6th that requires all people over the age of two in Massachusetts to wear face masks or cloth face coverings in public places, indoor or outdoor, where social distancing is not possible, unless the person cannot wear one due to a medical condition. The mask or covering must cover your mouth and nose. Masks and coverings must be worn at all times when inside pharmacies, grocery stores, or other retail stores and when using public transportation or rideshare services.

A first violation of the masking order will result in a warning, and the second or subsequent offense may result in a civil citation and fine of up to \$300.

For the executive order and more information:

https://www.mass.gov/newswear-a-mask-in-public

For information on how to make your own cloth mask:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html

Check out this article if you want to buy masks online:

https://www.cbsnews.com/news/face-mask-where-to-get-if-not-medical-worker/



Revere is doing "Mask Up May" for Revere residents. Starting May 4th, Revere is giving out reusable masks. They are available for pick up 9am-3pm at the Rumney Marsh Academy Monday-Friday. If you would prefer delivery, fill out this form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/ e/1FAIpQLScSzdvrFd61Or E2k17Q3EC-O7G7-7RjtOcX9AGX6ZlxdAGA/viewform

City Resources

Boston Mayor's Office and City Resources

Website: https://www.boston.gov/departments/mayors-office

Phone: (617) 635-4500 **Twitter:** @Marty_Walsh

COVID-19 Updates: https://www.boston.gov/news/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-boston

Mayor's Health Line: 9am-5pm (617) 534-5050 Text BOSCOVID to 99411 for daily updates

Call Boston 3-1-1

Boston Public Health Commission:

COVID-19 Updates: https://bphc.org/onlinenewsroom/Blog/Lists/Posts/Post.aspx?ID=1282

Phone: (617) 534-5050 or Toll-Free 1(800) 847-0710





Chelsea City Resources

Website: https://www.chelseama.gov/ City Hall Phone: (617) 466-4000

COVID-19 Updates: https://www.chelseama.gov/coronavirusupdates **Call** Chelsea 3-1-1 or (617) 466-4209 if calling from outside of Chelsea

Sign up for city alerts at https://member.everbridge.net/892807736724016/login
The One Chelsea Fund: https://unitedwaymassbay.org/covid-19/local-funds/chelsea/

Revere Mayor's Office and City Resources

Website: https://www.revere.org/mayors-office

Phone: (781) 286-8111

Mayor's Twitter: @MayorArrigo

COVID-19 Updates: https://www.revere.org/departments/public-health-division/coronavirus

Call Revere 3-1-1
Twitter: @Revere311

Email: Revere311@revere.org

Revere Coronavirus Mutual Aid Guide: https://www.revere.org/departments/public-health-division/coronavirus/revere-mutual-aid



Winthrop Town Resources



Town Hall Phone: (617) 846-1852

COVID-19 Updates: https://www.town.winthrop.ma.us/home/urgent-alerts/covid-19-

public-health-updates

https://www.town.winthrop.ma.us/important-information-winthrop-residents

COVID Emergency Operations Center: Monday-Friday 8am-4pm, call (617) 539-5848

or email COVID19info@town.winthrop.ma.us



Courts and the Justice System

All of the court systems in the Commonwealth are acting in a reduced capacity. Most courthouses are closed to the public during the COVID-19 Emergency, with the exception of emergency hearings. Where possible, hearings are being done via phone or videoconference. For details about how that may affect a specific case, please contact the clerk's office at the specific courthouse where the case is being handled. If you cannot contact the clerk's office, you can call the Trial Court Help Line (833) 921-6878.



| *Boston Juvenile Court(617) 788-8525 | Roxbury Division, Boston Municipal Court(617) 427-7000 |
|--|---|
| Brighton Division, Boston Municipal Court(617) 782-6540 | South Boston Division, Boston Municipal Court(617) 268-9292 |
| Central Division, Boston Municipal Court(617)788-8600 | Suffolk Superior Court, Civil Clerk's Office(617) 788-8110 |
| Charlestown Division, Boston Municipal Court(617) 242-5400 | Suffolk Superior Court, Criminal Clerk's Office(617) 788-8160 |
| Chelsea District Court(617) 660-9200 | West Roxbury Division, Boston Municipal Court(617) 971-1200 |
| *Chelsea Juvenile Court(617) 660-9225 | *West Roxbury Juvenile Court(617) 971-1154 |
| Dorchester Division, Boston Municipal Court(617) 288-9500 | |
| *Dorchester Juvenile Court(617) 288-9500 Ext. 400 | *All requests for information on Juvenile matters should be |
| East Boston Division, Boston Municipal Court(617) 569-7550 | directed to the Boston Juvenile Court |

For up-to-date information about the Massachusetts's court system response to the COVID-19 emergency, visit:

https://www.mass.gov/guides/court-system-response-to-covid-19

For News and Announcement from the Massachusetts's court system, visit:

https://www.mass.gov/guides/court-system-response-to-covid-19#-news-and-announcements-

For press releases regarding updates from the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, visit:

https://www.suffolkdistrictattorney.com/press-office/press-releases

Suffolk County Police Departments

CALL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES, these resources are for non-emergency needs

Emergency
response
services in
Suffolk County
continue to be
available. Please
call 911 if you
need emergency
assistance.

Boston Police Department:

https://www.boston.gov/departments/police,

https://bpdnews.com/

Non-Emergency Requests: Dial 3-1-1

Twitter: @BostonPolice
Community Engagement:
Chelsea Police Department:
https://chelseapolice.com/

Non-Emergency Phone: (617) 466-4855

Revere Police Department: https://reverepolice.org/

Non-Emergency Phone: (781) 284-1212

Twitter: @ReverePolice

MBTA Transit Police Department:

https://www.mbta.com/transit-police

Non-Emergency Phone: (617) 222-1212 TTY: (617) 222-1200

Twitter: @MBTATransitPD

Winthrop Police Department:
https://winthroppublicsafety.com/
Non-Emergency Phone: (617) 846-3473

Twitter: @WinthropPolice

Suffolk County Fire Departments

CALL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES, these resources are for non-emergency needs

Boston Fire Department:

https://www.boston.gov/departments/fireoperations

Non-Emergency Phone: (617) 343-3550

Twitter: @BostonFire

Chelsea Fire Department:
https://www.chelseama.gov/fire

Non-Emergency Phone: (617) 466-4600

Twitter: @ChelseaFire_MA

Revere Fire Department:

https://www.revere.org/departments/

Non-Emergency Phone: (781) 284-0014

Winthrop Fire Department:

https://winthroppublicsafety.com/ Non-Emergency Phone: (617) 846-347 If you have an emergency and need to call 911, alert them if you are in COVID-19 home quarantine or if you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. This is important in order to protect the health and safety of first responders and the community.

Health and Medical Care

What do I do if I have COVID-19 symptoms?

- Call a doctor if you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and/or you have developed a fever (100.4° or higher) with cough or difficulty breathing, and follow all medical guidance.
- Stay home unless you need to leave to get medical care.
- Call ahead before visiting your doctor so that they can take safety precautions.
- Limit contact with others in your home if possible and disinfect all shared areas.
- If you need to call 911 for a medical emergency, alert dispatch that you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms in order to protect the health and safety of first responders.



If you develop any of these <u>emergency warning signs</u> of COVID-19 infection, seek medical attention immediately:

- . Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face
- Consult your medical provider for any other severe or concerning symptoms

Get more information at: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html

Don't have a primary care doctor or don't know who to call?

Call Massachusetts 2-1-1 any time

Call the Boston Mayor's Health Line Monday-Friday 9am-5pm (617) 534-5050 or toll-free 1(800) 847-0710 Seek immediate medical care for severe symptoms or call 9-1-1 for *medical emergencies*.

Buoy Health Online COVID-19 Screening

Massachusetts has partnered with Boston based company Buoy Health to provide a free online tool for symptom screening and accessing medical advice remotely. As stated on their website, "This tool is not a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment." https://www.mass.gov/how-to/check-your-symptoms-for-covid-19-online

COVID-19 Testing

Types of Tests: There are two kinds of tests available: Viral Tests and Antibody Tests. Viral tests determine if you have a current infection, and antibody tests determine if you had a previous infection.

Who Should Be Tested: If you develop symptoms of COVID-19, call your healthcare provider. They will help you decide if testing is appropriate. You can also use the Buoy Health screening tool to help find the right care. If you do not have a healthcare provider or are need help navigating access to testing or care, call Mass 2-1-1 or Boston's multilingual Mayor's Health Line (617) 534-5050.

Testing is Free: regardless of insurance or immigration status, and will not affect "public charge" rule determinations.

Testing Sites: Testing sites do not provide walk-in care. They all require you to call ahead for pre-screening and to schedule an appointment, or you can be referred by your healthcare provider.

Boston Testing Sites: https://www.boston.gov/departments/public-health-commission/map-covid-19-testing-sites

All Massachusetts Testing Sites: mass.gov/covidtestmap

For more information about COVID-19 Testing in Massachusetts: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-testing

Health and Medical Care Continued

Suffolk County Area Hospitals

Some healthcare facilities have limited services or specific protocols for emergency status operations, call ahead to ensure you can access the needed services.

| Boston Children's Hospital | www.childrenshospital.org (617) 355-6000 |
|---|---|
| | www.bmc.org (617) 638-8000 |
| | www.bidmc.org (617) 667-7000 |
| | https://www.bidmc.org/locations/chelsea (617) 975-6096 |
| | www.brighamandwomens.org (617) 732-5500 |
| | www.carneyhospital.org (617) 296-4000 |
| CHA Everett Hospitalhttp | os://www.challiance.org/location/everett-hospital (617) 389-6270 |
| | <u>www.dana-farber.org</u> (617) 632-3000 |
| Faulkner Hospital | www.brighamandwomensfaulkner.org (617) 983-7000 |
| Franciscan Children's Hospital | <u>www.franciscanchildrens.org</u> (617) 254-3800 |
| Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary | <u>www.masseyeandear.org</u> (617) 523-7900 |
| Massachusetts General Hospital | <u>www.massgeneral.org</u> (617) 726-2000 |
| McLean Hospital | |
| New England Baptist Hospital | <u>www.nebh.org</u> (617) 754-5000 |
| Shriner's Hospital-Children | <u>www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org/boston</u> (617) 722-3000 |
| St. Elizabeth's Medical Center | <u>www.semc.org</u> (617) 789-3000 |
| Tufts Floating Hospital for Children | www.floatinghospital.org (617) 636-8100 |
| Tufts Medical Center | www.tuftsmedicalcenter.org (617) 636-5000 |
| Outpatient and Community Healthcare Cen Bowdoin Street Health Centerwww.k | iters oidmc.org/locations/bowdoin-street-health-center (617) 754-0100 |
| Brookside Community Health Center | <u>www.brighamandwomens.org</u> (617) 522-4700 |
| CHA Revere Care Center | <u>www.challiance.org</u> (781) 485-8222 |
| Charles River Community Health | |
| Charlestown HealthCare Center MGH | <u>www.massgeneral.org/charlestown/</u> (617) 724-8135 |
| Chelsea HealthCare Center MGH | |
| Daniel Driscoll Neponset Pediatrics | www.hhsi.us/programs-and-services/pediatrics/ (617) 282-3200 |
| Fenway Health | <u>www.fenwayhealth.org</u> (617) 267-0900 |
| Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center | <u>www.harvardstreet.org</u> (617) 825-3400 |
| Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates Copley | <u>www.atriushealth.org</u> (617) 859-5000 |
| Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates Kenmore | <u>www.atriushealth.org</u> (617) 421-1000 |
| Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates Post Office Squ | are <u>www.atriushealth.org</u> (617) 654-7000 |
| Martha Eliot Health Center | <u>www.childrenshospital.org</u> (617) 971-2100 |
| New Health Center Charlestown | <u>www.newhealthcenter.org/</u> (857) 238-1100 |
| New Health Center North End | <u>www.newhealthcenter.org/</u> (617) 643-8000 |
| North End Waterfront Health MGH | <u>www.northendwaterfronthealth.org</u> (617) 643-8000 |
| Revere HealthCare Center MGH | www.massgeneral.org/locations/revere/ (781) 485-6000 |
| • | nic <u>www.scchc.org/</u> (617) 482-7555 |
| South Cove Community Health Center South Street C | linic <u>www.scchc.org/</u> (617) 521-6713 |
| Southern Jamaica Plain Health Center | <u>www.brighamandwomens.org</u> (617) 983-4147 |

Health and Medical Care Continued

Boston HealthNet Community Health Centers

Boston HealthNet is a collaboration between Boston Medical Center and network of community healthcare providers focused on urban health.

| Codman Square Health Center | <u>www.codman.org</u> (617) 825-9660 |
|--|---|
| The Dimock Center | <u>www.dimock.org</u> (617) 442-8800 |
| DotHouse Health | <u>www.dorchesterhouse.org</u> (617) 288-3230 |
| East Boston Neighborhood Health Center | <u>www.ebnhc.org</u> (617) 569-5800 |
| Geiger Gibson Community Health Center | <u>www.hhsi.us</u> (617) 288-1140 |
| Greater Roslindale Medical and Dental Center | <u>www.roslindale.org</u> (617) 323-4440 |
| Manet Community Health Center | <u>www.manetchc.org</u> (617) 376-3000 |
| Mattapan Community Health Center | <u>www.mattapanchc.org</u> (617) 296-0061 |
| South Boston Community Health Center | <u>www.sbchc.org</u> (617) 269-7500 |
| South End Community Health Center | <u>www.sechc.org</u> (617) 425-2000 |
| Upham's Corner Health Center | www.uphamscornerhealthcenter.org (617) 287-8000 |
| Whittier Street Health Center | <u>www.wshc.org</u> (617) 427-1000 |

Transportation and Shuttle Information: https://www.bmc.org/visiting-us/transportation/shuttle-bus-uber#healthnet

Need to find a Community Health Center? You can search for Community Health Centers near where you live:

https://massleague.org/findahealthcenter/

Homelessness Specialized Healthcare

Boston Healthcare for the Homeless

https://www.bhchp.org/

(857) 654-1000

New patients call: (857) 654-1600 to make an appointment

Twitter: @BHCHP

BOSTON HEALTH CARE for the HOMELESS PROGRAM

"People experiencing homelessness are exceptionally vulnerable to the coronavirus and its complications. Living in crowded shelters, transmission of the illness can happen very quickly. BHCHP is working in close collaboration with our shelter and hospital partners, the City, and the State to enact a swift, comprehensive and multi-faceted response." -BHCHP

- COVID-19 response includes: screening, operating testing sites, operating a specified respite program for symptomatic
 patients, equipping and running two medical tent facilities, operating a 24/7 hotline and mobile service to respond to alerts
 from homeless shelter staff, preparing and responding to the personal protective equipment shortage.
- They continue to provide standard services as well: adult primary care, behavioral health services, substance use disorder services, case management, family health services, medical respite care for recovery during serious illness or injury, pharmacy, eye care, dental care, HIV care, hepatitis C services, street outreach, and transgender specialized care.

Medications and Pharmacy

Pharmacies are considered essential services and businesses, so they are able to stay open during this time.

In response to COVID-19, MassHealth is allowing early refills, 90 day supplies, and deliveries if offered by the pharmacy. People with private insurance should contact their specific provider to ask if these allowances also apply to their coverage.

If you are too high-risk to leave your home or are having other trouble accessing your medications in the community, contact the Mayor's Healthline to discuss options (800) 847-0710 or (617) 534-5050.

Health Insurance

COVID-19 Insurance Coverage

As of March 6, 2020, the Division of Insurance determined that Massachusetts health insurance plans are required to provide full insurance coverage for COVID-19 testing and treatment without co-pay nor deductible. Therefore, testing and treatment of COVID-19 must be provided by insurance at no additional cost to you. For more information regarding the order by the Division of Insurance, visit:

https://www.mass.gov/doc/bulletin-2020-02-addressing-covid-19-coronavirus-testing-and-treatment-issued-362020/download

Massachusetts Health Insurance Marketplace

The Massachusetts Health Connector is able to assist with applying for and obtaining health insurance through MassHealth or private insurance. Open enrollment has been extended for all qualified Massachusetts residents who are uninsured.

Visit https://www.mahealthconnector.org/ or call 1(877) 623-6765

MassHealth: Medicaid and CHIP

MassHealth coverage updates regarding COVID-19:

https://www.mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-applicants-and-members

- All MassHealth plans will cover COVID-19 treatment and testing.
- All MassHealth providers can deliver any MassHealth covered service via telehealth if determined medically necessary and clinically appropriate.
- Allowing early prescription refills and 90-day supplies.
- As of March 18, 2020 MassHealth will not end covered for any member or person who is approved for coverage during the COVID-19 outbreak national emergency and for one month after the emergency period ends.
- Transportation through PT-1 remains available, but is limited to those with highest need.
- Any questions about coverage: Customer Service 1(800) 841-2900, TTY 1(800) 497-4648

Applying for MassHealth and Changes of Eligibility:

- Report all changes of circumstances, including unemployment or lost wages, as soon as
 possible to ensure you have the appropriate plan and coverage.
- You can always apply for MassHealth following a qualifying changes of circumstances that causes loss of insurance.
- MassHealth has extended the enrollment period for all qualified uninsured Massachusetts residents, even without a qualifying change of circumstances, through April 25, 2020.
- You can apply online, by mail, by fax, or by phone. In person appointments are not currently available due to COVID-19 emergency status.
- For assistance applying and eligibility information, go to https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-masshealth-the-health-safety-net-or-the-childrens-medical-security-plan
 or call MassHealth customer service 1(800) 841-2900, TTY 1(800) 497-4648

If think you have COVD-19 and don't have insurance:

Seek medical care if
you think you might
have COVID-19
regardless of
insurance status.
COVID-19 testing and
treatment for
uninsured individuals is
covered by Medicaid at
no cost to you.

Have private insurance?

You can contact the customer service department of your specific insurance plan with any questions.

The contact

The contact
information for your
plan can typically be
found on your medical
insurance card, online,
or through your
employer.

Health Insurance Continued

Private Insurance

- All private insurance plans are required to cover COVID-19 testing and treatment without co-pay or deductible. For more information regarding the bulletin released by the Massachusetts Division of Insurance, visit:
- https://www.mass.gov/doc/bulletin-2020-02-addressing-covid-19-coronavirus-testing-and-treatment-issued-362020/download
- If you have any questions about your insurance, you can contact the customer service department of your specific
 insurance plan. This contact information can usually be found on your insurance card, online, or through your
 employer.



Secondary MassHealth Coverage for Children

Parents of children with private insurance can apply for secondary MassHealth coverage for their child to assist with medical costs, co-pays, and additional service coverage and access.

For more information, visit:

https://www.mass.gov/masshealth-for-individuals-families-and-people-with-disabilities

or call MassHealth Customer Service at

1(800) 841-2900, TTY 1(800) 497-4648

Healthcare and Health Insurance Advocacy

Health Care for All

https://www.hcfama.org/

Health Insurance Question Helpline: 1(800) 272-4232

Twitter: @HCFA

Health Care for All can provide assistance navigating health insurance coverage and accessing health insurance, trouble shooting issues with state insurance programs, and they can provide appropriate referrals.

Health Law Advocates

https://healthlawadvocates.org/

- A 501(c)(3) public interest law firm whose mission is to provide pro-bono legal representation to low-income residents experiencing difficulty accessing or paying for needed medical services.
- HLA provides high quality, free legal assistance to income-eligible Massachusetts residents having difficulty accessing
 health care or health insurance coverage. They also provide legal assistance to consumers with over medical debt.
 Specializing in: appealing denials of health insurance enrollment, appealing denials of specific healthcare service
 coverage, protection from illegal billing or collection, obtaining appropriate healthcare through state agencies and
 school systems, healthcare access and coverage for immigrants, and more.

For information for seeking assistance through Health Law Advocates, visit:

https://www.healthlawadvocates.org/get-legal-help/intake-procedure or call (617) 338-5241 or toll-free 1(888) 211-6168 For information regarding advocacy for accessing mental health services for court involved youths, visit: https://www.healthlawadvocates.org/initiatives/mhapforkids or call (617) 275-2919

Mental Health Services and Support



Navigating a Mental Health Crisis

If you or someone you know are experiencing a mental health crisis, it is important to know: You are not alone, this is not your fault, you deserve help and support, and there is support available for you.

What is a Mental Health Crisis? NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) defines a mental health crisis as: "any situation in which a person's behavior puts them at risk of hurting themselves or others and/or prevents them from being able to care for themselves or function effectively in the community."

Are There Warning Signs? Warning signs are not always present, but some common signs include: A decrease in daily functioning and ability to care for self, rapid mood swings and energy levels, increased agitation and aggression, self-harm behaviors, increased substance use, abusive behavior towards others, isolation from others, losing touch with reality, paranoia.

Are There Warning Signs of Suicide? There are not always warning signs, but some common signs include: giving away possessions, talking as if they are saying goodbye or leaving, taking steps to resolve debts and other outstanding issues, making or changing a will, stockpiling medications or obtaining a weapon, preoccupation with death, sudden calm or happiness after a period of hopelessness, dramatic changes in behavior or mood, increased substance use, statements of hopelessness or despair, withdrawal from loved ones, failed romantic relationships, history of suicide attempts or self-harming behaviors, history of family or friend attempting or completing suicide.

What do I do During a Mental Health Crisis? If you are worried about yourself or a loved one, assess the immediacy of the situation to help determine where to start: Is the person in immediate danger of hurting themselves or others? Do you have time to pursue guidance from a mental health professional? Do you need emergency assistance?

Call 9-1-1 if there is immediate danger, and leave the location immediately if you do not feel safe with the person.

For a crisis that does not require a 9-1-1 response, you can pursue hotlines, helplines, and other rapid response providers. For More Information: https://www.nami.org/crisisguide or call the NAMI Helpline 1(800) 950-6264

Need Immediate Help in a Crisis?

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: Call 1(800) 273-TALK (8255) to speak with a trained crisis counselor 24/7

Crisis Text Line: Text NAMI to 741-741 to receive support from a trained crisis counselor by text 24/7

National Domestic Violence Hotline: Call 1(800) 799-SAFE (7233) to speak with an expert 24/7

National Sexual Assault Hotline: Call 1(800) 656-HOPE (4673) to connect with a trained sexual assault service provider 24/7 The Trevor Project Hotline: Call 1(866) 488-7386 or text START to 678678 to speak with a LGBTQ+ Youth specialized crisis counselor 24/7

The Network La Red Hotline: Call 1(800) 832-1901 to speak with a crisis counselor specializing in LGBQ/T, SM, and Polyamorous relationships 24/7

Emergency Service Providers

Emergency Service Providers/Mobile Crisis Intervention provide rapid mental health response for individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis.

Boston Region ESP: Boston Medical Center/Boston Emergency Services Team (BEST)
24 Hour Access Number: 1(800) 981-4357

- Services include: community-based behavioral health crisis assessments, emergency interventions, and stabilization services. They can serve as an access point for higher levels of care when appropriate.
- Who can receive ESP services: Residents of all ages who are uninsured or who have insurance through MassHealth,
 Medicare, or eligible commercial insurances.
- Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
- For more information: https://www.masspartnership.com/provider/ESP.aspx

Mental Health Services and Support Continued

Pursuing Mental Health Treatment

Finding the right mental health care provider can be difficult. These guides and sources can help!

Tips on Finding a Mental Health Provider:

https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/mental-illness/in-depth/mental-health-providers/art-20045530

How to Find the Right Mental Health Professional for You:

https://www.mcleanhospital.org/news/find-therapist-how-choose-right-mental-health-professional-you

The Types of Mental Health Professionals:

https://www.nami.org/Learn-More/Treatment/Types-of-Mental-Health-Professionals

Searchable Database of Massachusetts Therapists:

https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/therapists/massachusetts

Department of Mental Health: DMH

DMH continues to provide services and is still accepting applications for services. You can contact them for updates regarding services availability. You can apply for services online at: https://www.mass.gov/lists/applications-for-dmh-services or call the DMH Information and Resource Line at 1(800) 221-0053



A Guide for Finding Mental Health Support in Massachusetts:

https://www.mass.gov/guides/finding-mental-health-support-in-massachusetts

Additional Resources for COVID-19 Stress Management:

https://www.mass.gov/info-details/maintaining-emotional-health-well-being-during-the-covid-19-outbreak

Additional DMH Resource Guides can be found at:

https://www.mass.gov/service-details/dmh-resource-guides

Outpatient Mental Health Service Providers

Some providers may have limited services, remote or telehealth services, specific protocols for emergency status operations, call ahead to ensure you can access the needed services.

| BMC Child Witness to Violence Project | <u>www.childwitnesstoviolence.org</u> (617) 414-4244 |
|---|---|
| CEDAR Clinic | <u>www.cedarclinic.org</u> (617) 754-1223 |
| Children's Services of Roxbury | <u>www.csrox.org</u> (617) 445-6655 |
| Commonwealth Psychology Services | www.commpsych.com (617) 259-1895 |
| Community Services Institute | <u>www.communityserv.com</u> (617) 325-2993 |
| Family Services of Greater Boston | www.fsgb.org (617) 523-6400 |
| Judge Baker Children's Center | <u>www.jbcc.harvard.edu</u> (617) 232-8390 |
| La Alianza Hispana | <u>www.jbcc.harvard.edu</u> (617) 232-8390 <u>www.laalianza.org</u> (617) 427-7175 |
| Massachusetts Mental Health Center | <u>www.mass.gov/locations/massachusetts-mental-health-center</u> (617) 626-9300 |
| New England Community Services Dorchester | <u>www.necservices.org</u> (617) 322-9556 |
| North Suffolk Mental Health Association | |
| Priority Professional Care | <u>www.ppcboston.com</u> (857) 598-4774 <u>www.roxmulti.org</u> (617) 541-6859 |
| Roxbury Multi-Service Center | <u>www.roxmulti.org</u> (617) 541-6859 |
| South Boston Behavioral Health Clinic | www.tuftsmedicalcenter.org (617) 268-1700 |
| Southbay Chelsea Outreach Program | <u>www.southbaycommunityservices.com</u> (617) 466-6650 |
| | <u>www.southbaycommunityservices.com</u> (857) 217-3700 |
| Trauma Center at JRI | |

Mental Health Services and Support Continued

Children's Behavioral Health Initiative (CBHI)

- CBHI services are an option for eligible youth and their families who meet clinical criteria and have qualifying MassHealth insurance coverage.
- CBHI services include a continuum of home and community-based behavioral health treatment, support, and case management services in a wrap-around model that intends to support the youth with mental health conditions as well as their family, recognizing how a child's mental health can affect the entire family unit.
- To learn more about CBHI, visit: https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/cbhi
- To find CBHI providers that cover your region, visit: https://www.mabhaccess.com

CBHI providers may have varying protocols, including telehealth, for delivery of care at this time, including telehealth or other ways to manage care while protecting the health and safety of the providers and patients during the COVID-19 emergency. Please contact the providers directly to learn more about their current service availability.

Telehealth Services



So what is Telehealth? Telehealth is when healthcare is provided by telecommunication technology (including phone, video chatting, or other method) instead of in person. Many medical and mental health providers are choosing to use methods of telehealth services in order to continue providing care during the COVID-19 emergency. Telehealth is covered by MassHealth and many other insurance plans under provisions regarding expectations of coverage during the COVID-19 health emergency. If you are interested in receiving care by telehealth, talk to your healthcare providers or your insurance customer service department.

MCPAP: Massachusetts Child Psychiatry Access Program

MCPAP is a service that connects primary care pediatricians with child psychiatry supervision in order to expedite access to appropriate psychiatric treatment for children. You can talk to your child's pediatrician about contacting MCPAP for assistance.

https://www.mcpap.com/

Boston North Team: Massachusetts General Hospital, North Shore Medical Center 1(855) 627-2763 **Boston South Team:** Boston Children's Hospital, McLean Hospital, Tufts Medical Center 1(844) 636-2727

Email: mcpap@beaconhealthoptions.com

For more information, visit: https://www.mcpap.com/Families/YourChildMentalHealthNWellness.aspx

Mental Health and Social Service Referral Services

Sometimes, it can be overwhelming to try to find an appropriate mental health provider. You can seek guidance and assistance with referrals from your or you child's PCP or your health insurance can provide you with options for providers in your area who are covered by your insurance. Other referral options include:

Boston-Suffolk County Family Resource Center:

http://thehome.org/frc

(617) 469-8501

Free assessments and referrals to resources regarding: housing support, education, advocacy, utility assistance, legal help, mental health services, and recreational activities for youth and families.

Therapy Matcher:

https://www.therapymatcher.org

(617) 720-2828 or toll-free 1(800) 242-9794

Free, personalized, and confidential referrals to license social workers for mental health treatment

Mental Health Services and Support Continued

Boston Neighborhood Trauma Team

The Boston Neighborhood Trauma Team, through the Boston Public Health Commission, offers the following services for individuals, families, and communities impacted by community violence: 24/7 support hotline (617) 431-0125, immediate support services, support during community events following violence, referrals to ongoing behavioral health services, trauma education and support at community meetings, community outreach and education, community coping/healing groups.

Support is available to ALL residents who feel impacted by community violence. You can access these services by calling the hotline for immediate support or by calling a Neighborhood Trauma Team. All services are free and private. Contact information for the neighborhood teams can be found here: https://www.bphc.org/whatwedo/mental-emotional-health/trauma-response-and-recovery/Pages/Trauma-Response-and-Recovery.aspx



COVID-19 and Stress Management

It is important that you try to recognize potential signs of stress, anxiety, and emotional distress in yourself or your child. If you are unable to manage the stress on your own, and it is negatively impacting your daily functioning, you should consider pursuing therapeutic assistance and support. If you or anyone in your home experiences a mental health crisis due to the COVID-19 emergency, there is support available. See Page 10 for resources.

COVID-19 and Mental Health: NAMI produced this extensive guide for managing the intersection of mental health and COVID-19 as well as addressing the stressors that may contribute to mental health issues during this time. Find the guide at:

https://www.nami.org/getattachment/About-NAMI/NAMI-News/2020/NAMI-Updates-on-the-Coronavirus/COVID-19-Updated-Guide-1.pdf

Managing Stress and Anxiety: The outbreak of COVID-19 and ongoing emergency may be stressful for some people. Recognizing stress symptoms and anxiety in yourself and your children may be difficult, and you may need to develop new coping strategies. For resources regarding managing stress and anxiety during COVID-19, visit:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/managing-stress-anxiety.html or https://store.samhsa.gov/product/Coping-with-Stress-During-Infectious-Disease-Outbreaks/sma14-4885

Wellness Apps and Online Resources: There are many relaxation and stress management phone apps and online resources available for little to no cost. There are many guided meditations, yoga videos, and exercise resources online on sites such as YouTube. You can also check out:

Calm - https://www.calm.com A meditation and wellness app

Headspace - https://www.headspace.com A meditation and sleep assistance app

How do I help my child cope during this emergency? For more information regarding preparing and supporting your child for coping with emergencies, visit: https://www.cdc.gov/childrenindisasters/helping-children-cope.html. For more information regarding how to talk to your child about the infectious disease outbreak, visit: https://store.samhsa.gov/product/Talking-With-Children-Tips-for-Caregivers-Parents-and-Teachers-During-Infectious-Disease-Outbreaks/SMA14-4886

Parental Stress Support: Taking care of yourself and your mental health is a vital part of being able to support your child as they cope with the effects of this emergency. The Parental Stress Line is available 24/7 at no cost to provide judgment free, and confidential support for parents and caregivers. Services are available in all languages.

https://www.mass.gov/service-details/parent-and-caregiver-support

1(800) 632-8188

Disaster Distress Support: The SAMHSA Disaster Distress Helpline provides 24/7, free, and confidential support with trained crisis counselors for people experiencing anxiety and emotional distress due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/disaster-distress-helpline

1(800) 985-5990 or TTY 1(800) 846-8517

Text "TalkWithUs" or "Hablamos" to 66746

Suffolk County Child Advocacy Center: The Suffolk County CAC has created a resource guide for children and families with tips for parents, caregivers, and children regarding social-emotional support, how to talk with your child about COVID-19, and age appropriate guidance for coping: https://www.suffolkcac.org/support-resources/covid-19-support

Substance Use Disorders Services and Support

COVID-19 and Substance Use Disorders

The stress and instability resulting from the COVID-19 emergency may put people in recovery at higher risk for substance use. The National Institute of Health warns that some individuals with a history of substance abuse disorders may be at higher risk for complications of COVID-19 infections due to progressive lung damage. Support is available.

COVID-19 Guide for People in Recovery: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1W9mcVKlzaVOelZfVLxGAsrfO2utaBVNj/

Statewide Resources

Massachusetts Bureau of Substance Addiction Services

https://www.mass.gov/orgs/bureau-of-substance-addiction-services

(617) 624-5111

The Massachusetts Substance Abuse Information and Education Helpline

A statewide, public service to assist in finding substance use treatment and recovery services. Services are free and confidential.

https://helplinema.org/

1(800) 327-5050

Bureau of Substance Addiction Services - Youth Central Intake and Care Coordination

A centralized referral and intake helpline for adolescent substance use disorder treatment access and referrals.

(617) 661-3991 or toll-free 1(866) 705-2807

Massachusetts Behavioral Health Access (MABHA)

Summary of available services and levels of care as well as assistance in finding providers and service.

https://www.mabhaccess.com/SUD.aspx

Grayken Center - Partnership for Drug-Free Kids

A confidential and free one-on-one support service for parents with concerns about their child's substance use or abuse.

https://www.bmc.org/addiction/new-resources-massachusetts-parents

1(855) 378-4373

Boston Resources

Mayor's Office of Recovery Services:

https://www.boston.gov/departments/recovery-services

(617) 534-2730

You can also call 3-1-1 or (617) 635-4500 for 24/7 recovery support and referrals

Boston Public Health Commission - Recovery Services:

https://www.bphc.org/whatwedo/Recovery-Services/Pages/RecoveryServices.aspx

Call 3-1-1 or 1(855) 494-4057

Charlestown Coalition:

A joint program with Mass General Hospital, a community-based wraparound model for promoting health in the Charlestown community, include substance use disorder and social services supports.

http://charlestowncoalition.org/

(617) 726-0059



Substance Use Disorders Services and Support Continued

Chelsea Resources

Department of Health and Human Services

https://www.chelseama.gov/health-human-services

(617) 466-4082

Healthy Chelsea

A joint program with Mass General Hospital, a community-based wraparound model for promoting health in the Chelsea community with culturally sensitive and language accessible services, include substance use disorder and social services supports.

http://healthychelsea.org/

(617) 887-4219

Revere Resources

Substance Use Disorder Initiatives Office (SUDI)

https://www.revere.org/departments/substance-use-disorder-initiatives

Support Line: (781) 922-6069 or call 3-1-1

Winthrop Resources

Health Department

https://www.town.winthrop.ma.us/health-department

Community Action for Safe Alternatives

https://www.winthropcasa.org

(617) 207-1627 or (617) 784-8920

Alternative Supports During COVID-19

As the COVID-19 outbreak has caused a reduction of in person and group meetings, online and virtual recovery support may be an important part of recovery maintenance and treatment during the COVID-19 emergency. You can also talk to your providers about accessing telehealth services.

Alcoholics Anonymous - Online Meetings

https://www.aaonlinemeeting.net/

Narcotics Anonymous - Online and Telephone Meetings

https://virtual-na.org/

Narcotics Anonymous New England Virtual Meetings

https://nerna.org/virtual-meetings/

SMART Recovery Online Community

http://www.smartrecovery.org/smart-recovery-toolbox/smart-recovery-online/

Sober Grid App

https://www.sobergrid.com

In the Rooms: Online Global Recovery Community

https://www.intherooms.com/home/covid-19-resources/

Connections Smartphone App

https://www.addictionpolicy.org/connections-app

Domestic Violence Services and Support

The Baker-Polito Administration today announced the expansion of SafeLink, the Commonwealth's statewide, 24/7, toll-free and confidential domestic violence hotline to now include resources and support for survivors of sexual assault. Previously, SafeLink served as a hotline to specifically connect domestic violence survivors to services, but they can now triage calls to local area rape crisis centers as well during the COVID-19 emergency.

Safelink Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline: 24/7 1(877) 785-2020

Safelink TTY Hotline: (877) 521-2601

Community Advocacy Helpline: (617) 521-0116

Legal Hotline: (617) 521-0146

Services include: 24/7 hotline assistance available in all languages, residential shelter programs, legal advocacy, housing advocacy, counseling, economic stability services, and children's services. For more information on Casa Myrna, please visit:

https://www.casamyrna.org/ or on Twitter @CasaMyrna

We are still here for you Safelink is available 24/7 to help you think through ways to stay safe if you are spending more time at home. (24) (877) 785-2020

Emergency response services in Suffolk County are still running and available. Please call 911 if you believe that you, someone in your home, or other vulnerable individual is in immediate danger and you need emergency assistance.

Additional Boston Area Resources

Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence: 24/7 Hotline (617) 338-2355

Linguistically and culturally responsive assistance Asian survivors and communities.

https://www.atask.org

FINEX House: 24/7 Hotline (617) 288-1054

A shelter for women who have survived DV and their children, especially those with disabilities or history of commercial sexual exploitation or human trafficking.

https://www.finexhouse.org/

HarborCOV: 24/7 Hotline (617) 884-9909

Linguistically and culturally responsive domestic violence intervention and assistance for Chelsea community and anyone affected by DV.

https://harborcov.org

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center: 24/7 Hotline 1(800) 841-8371 Support and intervention for survivors of sexual assault and abuse

https://barcc.org

BMC Domestic Violence Program: Helpline for referrals & consults (617) 414-5457 Leave a voicemail in English, Spanish, or Haitian-Creole for service requests. Messages are checked frequently throughout the day with quick response.

https://www.bmc.org/programs/domestic-violence-program

Elizabeth Stone House: Non-Emergency Support (617) 409-5425

Assistance with survivors of DV with history of mental illness or addiction and housing insecurity.

https://www.elizabethstonehouse.org/

National Domestic Violence Hotline 24/7 assistance for survivors in need

http://www.thehotline.org

1(800) 799-7233 TTY: 1(800) 787-3224

Help available in over 140 languages

You can also call the **Family Justice Center** (FJC) of Suffolk County for nonemergency guidance regarding your
resources and options, including help
with legal system involvement.
Phone: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm

(617) 779-2100

Call ahead to find out what each program is able to provide during the COVID-19 Emergency. These helplines and hotlines are still functioning and the programs are able to provide remote assistance and some in-person services when appropriate.

Child Welfare

Join the #CommunitySafetyNet

Join the Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County and the Office of Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins in our efforts to protect children from abuse during COVID-19.

https://www.suffolkcac.org/support-resources/communitysafetynet



Learn the Signs of Child Abuse: Children who have been abused may display a wide variety of emotional, behavioral, or physical signs and symptoms. And, sometimes they may not display any symptoms at all. What is most important is that if you notice changes in a child that you let them know you are concerned, want to help, and that they can come to you for anything and you will not be upset.

For more information and to learn the signs: https://www.suffolkcac.org/support-resources/learn-the-signs

Know How to Respond: If you suspect a child is being hurt, it's important to know what to do. Make sure the child is safe and that they understand that you are going to help them. While the instinct is to collect as much information as possible, it's generally better to let the professionals get the details. Learn more: https://www.suffolkcac.org/support-resources/know-how-to-respond

English: https://www.suffolkcac.org/uploads/pages/

docs/know how to repsond.pdf

Español: https://www.suffolkcac.org/uploads/

pages/docs/sepa_como_responder.pdf

Português: https://www.suffolkcac.org/uploads/ pages/docs/KnowhowtoRespond Portuguese.pdf

When a child or teen discloses abuse or neglect Remember to... Avoid... ✓ Be available to talk × Playing detective Show that you're interested in how the child is doing. Let the child tell you what they choose to tell, when they are ready and able. Trying to gather all the facts can be harmful to the child, who will have to tell their story again to X Asking "why" Remain calm Asking why it happened, or why the child waited to tell, suggests the abuse was the child's fault. If the child senses you are upset, they may think they did something wrong or worry about your feelings. Judgmental comments ✓ Listen Avoid judgmental comments about the suspect, who may be someone the child loves and cares about. Reassure the child X Contacting the suspect Tell the child that they haven't done anything wrong, it was brave to tell, and you are going to get help. Telling the suspect what the child said, or that you filed a report, can be harmful to the child and the investigation. Keep the child informed X Asking leading questions Avoid asking questions that suggest what you think happened. Instead of "Did someone do that to you?" ask "How did you get hurt?" Let the child know you have a responsibility to tell other adults to make sure they are safe.

Talk About It: Talking with children regularly about personal safety helps children understand when boundaries may have been crossed and gives them the language to tell you when something is wrong. For more information:

https://www.suffolkcac.org/support-resources/talk-about-it

Seek Help: Immediately telephone the 24-hour DCF Child Protection Hotline at 1-800-792-5200 or local DCF office. You will find a directory of the DCF Area Offices at www.mass.gov/dcf. Area Offices are staffed between 9 AM and 5 PM on weekdays. The DCF Hotline is always available, even on weekends and holidays. Learn more about reporting abuse: https://www.suffolkcac.org/support-resources/reporting-abuse

Child Welfare Continued

Department of Children and Families (DCF)

DCF is continuing to provide services to youth and families during the COVID-19 emergency as well as responding to cases of abuse and neglect.

Main Phone: (617) 748-2000

Families with children in DCF custody and youths in DCF custody with questions regarding the response to COVID-19 should contact their ongoing DCF worker for more information. You can find a family guide to Protective Services for Children at: https://www.mass.gov/doc/a-familys -guide-to-protective-services-for-children-english-1/download

Reporting and Responding to Child Abuse or Neglect With DCF

What do I do if I suspect a child is being abused or neglected? First, immediately call the 24-Hour DCF Child Protection Hotline at 1(800) 792-5200 or your local DCF office that serves the area where the child lives during business hours. A directory of DCF area offices can be found at https://www.mass.gov/dcf

When do I report? Report if you suspect a child is experiencing abuse, neglect, or exploitation. You do not need to be certain in order to report.

What are the warning signs of abuse and neglect? You can review DCF's guide regarding signs of physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, and sexual exploitation or human trafficking at: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/warning-signs-of-child-abuse-and-neglect

What happens after I make a report? DCF, with the support of a multi-disciplinary team, will review the report to evaluate the circumstances to determine the child's safety and needs and whether DCF involvement is warranted.

For more information, visit: https://www.suffolkcac.org/support-resources/reporting-abuse

Emergency response services in Suffolk County are still running and available. Please call 911 if you believe that a child is in immediate lifethreatening danger.



The Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) of Suffolk County unites public, private and community partners to ensure safety, healing and justice for children and families impacted by violence, exploitation and abuse.

The Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County -**COVID-19 Support**

For information on resources and services for child and family health, welfare, and safety during the COVID-19 Emergency, visit:

https://www.suffolkcac.org/support-resources/covid-19-support

Or call (617) 776-2146 during business hours

Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County Stop, Block, and Talk: Internet Safety for Kids







stop · block · talk

Stop, Block, and Talk is an online safety program for kids and their parents. STOP, BLOCK and TALK highlights the steps kids can take to keep themselves safe online:

STOP: the communication if someone is rude or asks you for personal information or images

BLOCK: that person without feeling bad or guilty

TALK: to a parent or trusted adult when you need help or feel uncomfortable

For more information and resources, visit:

https://www.suffolkdistrictattorney.com/in-the-community/ internet-safety

Child Welfare Continued

Children's Trust of Massachusetts

The Children's Trust provides supports, services, and resources for families in order to prevent child abuse.

https://childrenstrustma.org/

(617) 727-8957

Visit their blog for regular updates regarding parenting and support for parents during the COVID-19 Emergency: https://onetoughjob.org/

Feeling overwhelmed by parenting?
Call The Children's Trust Parental Stress
Line at (800) 632-8188 24/7, available in
all languages, for support, empathy,
encouragement, information, and
referrals.



Food Resources

Statewide Food Access Assistance

Project Bread offers the FoodSource Hotline, a statewide information and referral service for Massachusetts residents facing hunger. Available in 160 different languages!

http://www.projectbread.org/get-help/foodsource-hotline.html

For help finding food resources in your community, call the FoodSource Hotline:

Hotline: 1(800) 645-8333 or TTY 1(800) 377-1292

Boston Mayor's Office of Food Access

The Mayor's Office of Food Access works to make healthy food available and affordable in Boston through multidisciplinary and multi-system collaboration, as is mapped below.

https://www.boston.gov/departments/food-access

Mayor's Health Line: 1(800) 847-0710

The Office of Food Access has comprehensive Food Resource Lists and Maps for food and hunger resources specifically in your community. They are available in English, Cape Verdean, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese. These maps can be found at the following links:

Allston-Brighton, Back Bay, Chinatown, Fenway, South End: https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/embed/a/allston_brighton_fenway_back_bay_chinatown_south_end_1.pdf

Beacon Hill, Charlestown, Downtown, East Boston, North End, West End: https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/

files/embed/e/east boston north end downtown west end beacon hill charlestown 1.pdf

Dorchester: https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/embed/d/dorchester 1.pdf

Hyde Park, Jamaica Plain, Mattapan, Roslindale, West Roxbury: https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/embed/

h/hydepark jamaica plain mattapan west roxbury 1.pdf

Mission Hill, Roxbury, South Boston: https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/embed/m/

mission hill roxbury south boston 1.pdf

Map of COVID-19 Food Resources in Boston

Information on free breakfast and lunch sites for Boston youth and adults, as well as locations of food pantries and soup kitchens.

https://www.boston.gov/departments/food-access/map-covid19-food-resources

Boston Community Food Programs - COVID-19 Supports







Chelsea - Feeding Yourself and Your Family During COVID-19

Chelsea residents, there is help if you need food. Here's what you need to know:

If you are sick and need food: Do not wait in line for food, call 3-1-1 or (617) 466-4209.

If you are 65+ years: Contact the Chelsea Senior Center for grocery deliveries at (617) 466-4377 or (617) 466-4370.

If you have children who need food: Children can receive free breakfast and lunch Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at specific locations. See "Food Resources for Children" for details.

MGH Food for Families Pantry: Available 2x per month for MGH patients by referral. Call (617) 887-3575.

Pop-Up Food Pantries: Available Monday - Friday 11am-1pm at the following locations

- Mondays: Quigley Park (25 Essex St) & Ruiz Park (141 Washington Ave)
- Tuesdays: Luther Place (Cherry St between 5th St & 4th St) & Bellingham Hill Park (115 Bellingham St)
- Wednesdays: Washington Park (at Washington Ave & Hancock St) & Bosson Park (43-56 Bellingham St)
- Thursdays: Chelsea Square (near 2 Second St) & Highland Park (30 Willow St)
- Fridays: City Hall Parking Lot (500 Broadway) & Mary C. Burke Complex (300 Crescent Ave)

Salvation Army: Various food pick up available daily (258 Chestnut St)

- Monday Friday: Hot lunches and kids' lunches available at 11:30am
- Tuesdays & Thursdays: Grocery pick up available 10am-12pm

Pan y Café: Grocery pick up available Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5pm (173 Washington Ave)

Saint Luke's Episcopal Church: Meals and groceries (201 Washington Ave)

- Saturdays: Meals available 8:30-1pm
- You can register to receive a 1x monthly bag of groceries by appointment. Call (617) 884-4278.

For More Information: https://www.chelseama.gov/coronavirusupdates#anchor Feeding Yourself and Your Family

Map of COVID-19 Food Resources in Chelsea

Revere COVID-19 Food Resources

Meals for Students: Served Monday and Friday from 10:30-12:30 at Revere High School & Beachmont School. Students are given take-home breakfast and lunch to last them until the following pickup date. You can sign up for these meals to be delivered on Monday & Friday at https://forms.gle/qe14PjnfSDkL8aoV9 if you cannot pick up.

First Congregational Church's Revere Food Pantry: Temporarily at the Rumney Marsh Academy, 140 American Legion Highway, is open every Wednesday night from 7-8:30 p.m. and is free to all residents in need. Drive-ups encouraged or walk-ups welcomed.

Grocery Delivery: Revere's food delivery program is available Monday-Friday, 9:00am-2:00pm for residents who are over the age of 60, have mobility issues, or are under medical quarantine.

To request food delivery, please call 3-1-1 or (781) 286-8311.

Veterans Food Pantry: Available for Revere Veterans ONLY. First Wednesday of the month 10am-12:30pm at American Legion at 249 Broadway in Revere.

Grab and Go Meal Service: Open to all, Monday-Friday from 9:00am-11:00am or until the first 1,000 meals are gone at the Rumney Marsh Academy, 140 American Legion Highway. Drive-ups encouraged and walk-ups welcomed. 4 meals maximum can be provided per vehicle trip.

Winthrop COVID-19 Food Resources

<u>Winthrop Community Food Bank</u>: The food bank is distributing food by delivery only. If you are in need of food, please email: <u>WinthropFoodBank@town.winthrop.ma.us</u>. Please provide your name, address, phone number and the number of people in your household. If your need is urgent, please call the Emergency Operations Center at **617-539-5848**

Suffolk County Food Pantries

Food Pantries may have changes in hours, accessibility, and resources during the COVID-19 Emergency. Please call ahead to ensure you can access the needed resources. Neighborhoods/Cities/Towns are listed alphabetically.

Allston-Brighton

| Allston-Brighton Food Pantry(617) 254-4046 | , |
|--|---|
| APAC(617) 783-1485 | |

Boston

| ABCD N. End/W. End Pantry(617) 523-8125 | Project Bread(617) 732-5000 |
|--|---|
| American Red Cross of MA Bay(617) 375 0735 | Rosie's Place(617) 442-9322 |
| Boston Rescue Mission(617) 338-9000 | Salvation Army/South End Food Pantry(617) 536-5260 |
| Church of the Covenant(617) 266-7480 | Sojourner House(617) 442-0590 |
| Concord Baptist Church(617) 698-9300 | St. Anthony Shrine/Franciscan Food Center(617) 542-6440 |
| Greater Boston Food Bank(617) 427-5200 | St. Francis House Inc(617) 542-4211 |
| Haley House Food Panty(617) 236-8132 | The Paulist Center(617) 742-4460 |
| Park Street Church(617) 525-3383 | |

Suffolk County Food Pantries Continued

| Charlestown | | | |
|---|----------------|---|--------------------|
| The Harvest on Vine | | | (617) 900-7314 |
| Chelsea | | | |
| Salvation Army/Chelsea Pantry | | | (617) 884-026 |
| St. Luke's-San Lucas Food Pantry | | | (617) 884-427 |
| Dorchester | | | |
| ABCD Dorchester NSC | (617) 288-2700 | Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center | (617) 822-558 |
| Antioch Missionary Baptist Church Pantry | (617) 288-6559 | Holy Tabernacle Church | (617) 427-802 |
| Catholic Charities/Yawkey Center | (617) 506-6930 | Kit Clark Senior Services Pantry | (617) 825-500 |
| Charles Street A.M.E. Church | (617) 442-7770 | Mary Ann Brett Food Pantry- St. Teresa | (617) 436-219 |
| Codman Square Health Center | (617) 825-9660 | Neponset Health Center Food Pantry | (617) 533-222 |
| Dorchester House | (617) 288-3230 | Project Care and Concern | (617) 288-237 |
| Eglise Baptiste Haitienne | (617) 287-8351 | St. Katharine Drexel Parish | (617) 445-891! |
| Elm Hill Family Service Center | (617) 442-5900 | St. Mary's Food Pantry | (617) 282-318 |
| Emmanuel Temple Church Food Pantry | (617) 442-8500 | St. Mathew's Church Food Pantry | (617) 436-359 |
| Faith Pentecostal Church | (617) 265-5700 | Stoughton St. Church of God | (617) 265-603 |
| Full Life Gospel Center | (617) 288-3027 | Zion Temple Church Food Pantry | (617) 825-912 |
| Glad Tiding Pentecostal Assembly | (617) 296-6784 | | |
| East Boston | | | |
| Crossroads Family Shelter/Our Daily Bread | | | (617) 567-592 |
| | | | |
| Hyde Park | | | |
| Hyde Park Emergency Food Pantry | | <u>www.hyd</u> | eparkfoodpantry.or |
| Mattapan | | | |
| Greater Boston Nazarene Compassion Cente | er | | (617) 296-745 |
| • | | | |
| Revere | | | |
| First Congregational Church Pantry | | | (781) 284-415 |
| Roslindale | | | |
| | | | (617) 323-830 |

Suffolk County Food Pantries Continued

Roxbury

| ABCD South End NSC/SNAP(617) 267-7400 | Outreach Van Project(617) 872-7782 |
|--|--|
| ABCD/Parker Hill Fenway NSC(617) 445-6000 | People's Baptist Church Food Pantry(617) 427-0424 |
| Bethel Baptist Church/Open Door Pantry(617) 427-3560 | Resurrection Lutheran Church(617) 522-2984 |
| Catholic Charities/El Centro Del Cardena(617) 542-9292 | Salvation Army/Roxbury Food Pantry(617) 427-6700 |
| Church of God Prophecy: Roxbury(617) 216-7025 | St. Mary of the Angels Food Pantry(617) 445-1524 |
| Eliot Congregational Church Food Pantry(617) 445-7525 | Tobin Brigham Family Support Program(617) 427-2543 |
| Grace and Hope Mission Food Pantry(617) 442-7579 | Twelfth Baptist Church Food Pantry(617) 442-7855 |
| Grant A.M.E./Self-Help(617) 427-1019 | United Emmanuel Holiness Church(617) 445-6933 |
| ISMO Food Pantry(617) 442-2805 | Warwick House- St. Phillip Parish(617) 442-8890 |
| | |

South Boston

| St. Augustine's- St. Monica Catholic Church Food Pantry(617 |) 268-1230 |
|---|------------|
| South Boston Community Health Center Food Pantry(617) |) 464-7504 |

West Roxbury

| Rose's Bounty- Stratford Street United Church | (857) | 203-0404 & | (857)3 | 23-4950 |
|---|-------|------------|--------|---------|
| | | | | |

Winthrop

| (617) 846-6884 | Winthrop Community Food Pantry |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
|----------------|--------------------------------|

Food for Students and Children

Boston

Boston Public Schools will continue to provide free breakfast and lunch meals to all Boston children; you do not have to have a child in BPS schools to access these meals. Locations will be open Monday - Friday from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM at the schools listed here, more locations may become available.

For updated information: https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/freemeals

Charlestown High School - 240 Medford St, Charlestown
East Boston High School - 86 White St, East Boston
Brighton High School - 25 Warren St, Brighton

Boston Latin School - 78 Avenue Louis Pasteur, Fenway **Blackstone Elementary School** - 380 Shawmut Ave, South End

Condon Elementary School - 200 D St, South Boston Curley K-8 School - 493 Centre St, Jamaica Plain Community Academy of Science & Health -11 Charles St, Dorchester Boston Latin Academy - 205 Townsend St, Roxbury

McCormack Middle School - 315 Mt Vernon St, Dorchester

Lee K-8 School - 155 Talbot Ave, Dorchester
Frederick - 270 Columbia Rd, Dorchester
Mildred Ave School - 5 Mildred Ave, Mattapan

Irving Middle School - 105 Cummins Hwy, Roslindale

Ohrenberger School - 175 W Boundary Rd, West Roxbury

BCLA/New Mission High School -655 Metropolitan Ave, Hyde Park

Additional free meal sites for children and families can be found on this interactive map:

https://www.boston.gov/departments/food-access/map-meal-sites-boston#map--409806





Chelsea

Beginning Monday, April 27th, Grand and Go meals will be served Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Students and families will be able to pick up multiple breakfasts and lunches each day.

You should go to the pick up site closes to your home: 1. Early Learning Center courtyard (Shurtleff Street Side), 2. Mary C. Burke Complex (Community Entrance), 3. Williams Middle School (Arlington Street Entrance), 4. Clark Avenue Middle School (Front Entrance), 5. Voke Park (Washington Ave).

For updated information about the CPS Emergency Food Program, visit: https://drive.google.com/file/d/lbrlhCe20Clcibdygp6sOlJxJvBtXBiZs/view

A partir del lunes 27 de abril, las comidas se servirán los Lunes, Miercoles, y Viernes.

Es preferido que irse al sitio más cercano a su hogar. Las ubicaciones del programa de alimentos escolares de emergencia son: 1. Early Learning Center courtyard (Shurtleff Street Side), 2. Mary C. Burke Complex (Community Entrance), 3. Williams Middle School (Arlington Street Entrance), 4. Clark Avenue Middle School (Front Entrance), 5. Voke Park (Washington Ave).

Para más información: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1brlhCe20Clcibdygp6sOlJxJvBtXBiZs/view

Visit the Chelsea Public School's website for updated information: https://www.chelseaschools.com/

Revere

Revere's Grab and Go Meals can be picked up between 10:30am and 12:30pm on Mondays and Fridays. Multiple meals will be provided at each distribution time.

Pick up locations: Revere High School (near the police station entrance just past the loading dock) and Beachmont School (main entrance). Families in the Point of Pines, Oak Island, and North Revere can still pick up meals from Officer Singer and Officer Brenes on Mondays and Fridays at the designated park near them.

For more specific pick up instructions: http://www.reverek12.org/userfiles/3/my%20files/updates%204.13.20.pdf?
id=7006

Visit the Revere Public School's website for updated information, COVID-19 updates are located on the bottom left corner of the page: http://www.reverek12.org/

Winthrop

Winthrop's Grab and Go Meals can be picked up between 11am and 1pm Monday through Friday for all Winthrop Public School students. The pick up location is the rear parking lot next to the baseball field at Winthrop High School.

Visit the Winthrop Public School's website for update and additional information:

https://www.winthrop.k12.ma.us/

Food Resources Continued State Food Programs for Families and Children

WIC During COVID-19

The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program assists eligible pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under the age of 5 years old. They provide healthy foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and referrals to healthcare and other services, free of charge, to Massachusetts families who qualify.

- You can call WIC at (800) 942-1007 or (617) 721-6601 Monday-Friday from 9am-5pm.
- All WIC Programs are able to provide all services by phone to align with social distancing efforts. If you have provided your local program with your email and cell phone number, you will receive notifications about important program updates by email and/or text. WIC's website will be kept up-to-date as well. Contact your local WIC office with any questions about breastfeeding, nutrition or shopping. Even if local program offices are not open, they are responding to phone calls and providing services from remote locations. Find your local WIC office here: https://www.mass.gov/orgs/women-infants-children-nutrition-program/locations? page=1
- WIC is working with stores to ensure contract infant formula is available. Please check at customer service if the infant formula shelf is empty. We are aware that there are periods when food and formula are not immediately available on the shelves; please be patient with your grocers as they are working hard to stock their shelves.
- Find out if you are eligible here: https://www.mass.gov/forms/apply-for-wic-online. Parents, grandparents, and foster parents may apply for children in their care.
- In response to challenges finding some WIC foods during COVID-19, WIC has temporarily expanded their food list to add options. You can find the expanded food list here: https://www.mass.gov/doc/wic-participant-notice-expanded-food-list/download
- You can find your WIC Rights and Responsibilities in English here: https://www.mass.gov/doc/wic-rights-and-responsibilities-english/download and in Spanish here: https://www.mass.gov/doc/wic-rights-and-responsibilities-spanish/download

For more information and updates, visit: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/wic-covid-19-updates

SNAP During COVID-19

SNAP is Massachusetts's Nutrition Assistance Program. For more SNAP information, see the "Unemployment" section of this guide and visit: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/dta-covid-19-frequently-asked-questions#snap-

Pandemic - EBT

Pandemic-EBT, or P-EBT, is a federal benefit from SNAP during the COVID-19 epidemic. It provides \$5.70 per child per day for every day school is closed to help pay for food during this time. You are eligible if you have school aged children who qualify for free or reduced price school meals (your immigration status does not matter). You will receive a letter in the mail in May about your P-EBT benefits. If you do not get a letter by late May, contact Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline at 800-645-8333 (TTY 800-377-1292).

For more information, visit: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/pandemic-ebt-p-ebt

Education

Tips for Remote Learning

Home Learning Tips for Students:

- Try to stick to a daily schedule.
- Try to find a comfortable space within minimal distractions.
- Don't overwhelm yourself, take breaks if you are stressed.
- Try to finish assignments on time, and give yourself extra time to get used to this new type of learning.
- Check in with your teachers regularly and reach out to them if you need help.
- Do you best to stay away from TV, phones, or other distractions while working.
- Don't forget to eat, sleep, and take care of your body and mental health!
- Take a quick break from the screen every 30 minutes.

For more info, visit:

https://bostonpublicschools.helpdocs.io/article/cxr30nhs80-home-learning-tips-for-students-families

Most schools have moved to remote and online learning to protect health and safety. Make sure to communicate directly with your child's school to ensure accuracy of information.

How can I support my child's online learning? Adults play a big role in students' learning. Explore learning sites with children, ask them questions about what they are learning, and engage in conversations about what they are watching on TV or online. Studies show that children learn more when they are able to talk about what they are learning.

- Set a daily schedule.
- Review virtual learning apps at: https://www.commonsensemedia.org/app-reviews
- Help them incorporate non-online activities such as reading, crafts, or other activities.
- Be realistic about goals and expectations, this is a stressful time.
- Help your child to navigate classes online.
- If possible, provide your child with a comfortable and distraction-free environment.
- Contact your child's teacher or school with any questions or issues.

For more info, visit: https://bostonpublicschools.helpdocs.io/article/cxr30nhs80-home-learning-tips-for-students-families

Boston Public Schools

Boston Public Schools are closed through the end of the school year by order of Governor Baker. For more information and updates, visit: https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/coronavirus

BPS Online Learning and Resources

For up-to-date information, visit: https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/Page/8081

Do you need assistance with home internet? There are special offers available for families impacted by the Coronavirus school closure. For more information, visit: https://www.boston.gov/news/internet-connectivity-and-technology-supports-during-covid-19-response

Does your child need a Chromebook for learning? BPS is providing Chromebooks to BPS students who do not have consistent access to a computer. To request one, visit: https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/laptop

Connecting to Online Learning: BPS primarily uses two applications to host apps and websites for students:

Clever: https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/backpack

Google Classroom: https://www.classroom.google.com

Students can log in using their BPS Gmail and BPS password. If you need assistance with your child's email or password visit https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rbF_b1-AtsL5wmkWr08z5nb6gQZRLHmjMhx4a4QyBC8/edit or call BPS Technology Help Desk at (617) 635-9200

BPS Library Resources: BPS Online Library Services can be accessed at: https://sites.google.com/bostonpublicschools.org/virtuallearningcommons/home

Education Continued

Chelsea Public Schools

Chelsea Public Schools are closed through the end of the school year by order of Governor Baker.

Las Escuelas Públicas de Chelsea escuelas están cerradas por el resto del año escolar.

For more information, Para más información: https://www.chelseaschools.com/

CPS Online Learning and Resources

For up-to-date information, visit: https://sites.google.com/chelseaschools.com/cps-digitalresources/home

Do you need assistance with home internet? To find options for internet access assistance, Para información sobre acceso a Internet, visit:

https://sites.google.com/chelseaschools.com/cps-digitalresources/parent-support/options-for-internet-access

Does your child need a Chromebook for learning? For CPS students who need a device to access virtual learning, Chromebooks will be distributed at schools beginning Thursday, March 26, 2020. For more information, Para más información sobre Chromebooks para estudiantes, visit: https://www.chelseaschools.com/site/Default.aspx?PageID=2617.

Remote Learning for Grades K-12: Grades one through twelve CPS students will be connecting with staff through Google Classroom; you can access Google Classroom at https://classroom.google.com. There will also be grade-level appropriate paper work packets available for pickup at the seven food stations for CPS students.

Social Emotional Support During School Closure: During this time of school closure, Chelsea Public Schools is committed to supporting our students and families. Students who would like to speak with a school Social Worker can now do so by emailing supportforstudents@chelseapublicschools.com. For more information, Para más información sobre apoyo social y emocional para estudiantes, visit: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hqm9XoUexuQzZ1YLpOL5dMBcr0TtM6if/view

Parent Supports and Guides: Parent support and engagement during school closure is vital for student success. For more information and tips for parents, Para información y recursos para los padres, visit:

https://sites.google.com/chelseaschools.com/cps-digitalresources/parent-support

Revere Public Schools

Revere Public Schools are closed through the end of the school year by order of Governor Baker.

For more information and updates, visit: http://www.reverek12.org/

RPS Online Learning and Resources

For up-to-date information, visit: http://www.reverek12.org/Content2/21338 and http://www.reverek12.org/Content2/21338 are http://www.reverek12.org/Content2/21338 are h

Remote Learning for Grades K-12: Students can access online learning through their Google Classroom accounts. Learning materials and resources organized for each RPS school can be found at: http://www.reverek12.org/Content2/21338
Additional Learning Materials: You can find more online learning resources at: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10EufwFzVAIGNb7myAyKKFYj WPCmJbF5W4ZIEo1IZyM/edit#gid=0

Social Emotional Support During School Closure: Students can find resources from school social workers at: https://www.instagram.com/rhs socialworkers/ and guidance counselor contact information can be found at: https://drive.google.com/file/d/17WPpj66te8HTdbC2PtC7R1L zRO-osXK/view

For Parents: Parents can log in to PowerSchool at: https://sis.reverek12.org/public/home.html

A parent resource letter can be found at:

(English) http://www.reverek12.org/userfiles/3/my%20files/corona.pdf?id=6771

(Español) http://www.reverek12.org/userfiles/3/my%20files/maria%20trozzi%20corona%20(1)spanish.pdf?id=6781

(Português) http://www.reverek12.org/userfiles/3/my%20files/maria%20trozzi%20corona%20pt.pdf?id=6780

http://www.reverek12.org/userfiles/3/my%20files/maria%20trozzi%20corona%20arabic.pdf?id=6779/العربية)

Education Continued

Winthrop Public Schools

Winthrop Public Schools are closed through the end of the school year by order of Governor Baker.

For more information and updates, visit: https://www.winthrop.k12.ma.us/

For up-to-date information, visit: https://www.winthrop.k12.ma.us/Page/9

Remote Learning for Grades K-12: Each WPS building Principal will reach out to their families directly to provide details related to student's access to learning opportunities as well as information to assist students and families in connecting with teachers, school nurses and other essential staff.

Winthrop High School Resources: Winthrop High School will be using online learning platforms Google Classroom, CK-12, Khan Academy, CodeHs, and Schoolology. Information for accessing classes on these platforms can be found at: https://www.winthrop.k12.ma.us/cms/lib/MA02202667/Centricity/Domain/99/Teachers%20Courses%20Online%20Learning%20Platforms-3.pdf

Additional Learning Materials: Students can also access recommended online education and learning resources for each grade level at https://www.winthrop.k12.ma.us/cms/lib/MA02202667/Centricity/Domain/8/Free%20Online%20Learning%20Resources.pdf. WPS also recommends that parents encourage students to read daily and engage with literary activities such as writing.

Education Advocacy

If you need legal advocacy and assistance regarding your child's educational access and rights:

Massachusetts Advocates for Children: Provides education advocacy for Massachusetts youth who face significant barriers including: discrimination because of their economic status, disability, race, ethnicity/culture, immigration status, English Learner status, and/or traumatic life experiences. They also have a specialized division for special education advocacy.

For guidance specific to education advocacy during the COVID-19 emergency, visit: https://www.massadvocates.org/covid19 or call their helpline:

English: (617) 357-8431 Ext. 3224 Español: (617) 357-8431 Ext. 3237

The EdLaw Project: Provides education advocacy for high-risk and low income Massachusetts youth.

http://edlawproject.org/ Helpline: (617) 910-5829

Childcare

Massachusetts Emergency Drop-In Childcare Programs

Emergency drop-in child care programs are opening to provide **emergency**, back-up, drop-in child care for vulnerable families and members of essential workforces who have **no other option**. You are not eligible if you are working from home or if you have alternative child care options. Priority access to emergency child care shall be given to vulnerable children, and the children of families designated as "COVID-19 Essential Workforces," with emphasis on those in the health care, public health, human services and law enforcement, public safety, and first responders.

To learn more and for a full list of providers, visit: https://eeclead.force.com/apex/EEC ChildCareEmergencyParents

Care for Children at Risk of Abuse or Neglect

If you feel that you are unable to safely care for your child or that your child is at risk of abuse or neglect in your care, contact your area DCF office during working hours:

https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-department-of-children-families/locations or the Child-At-Risk Hotline 1(800) 792-5200

Housing and Homelessness

People who are unhoused are at higher risk of health complications and trauma during public health or natural disaster emergencies. The spread of communicable disease is more difficult to manage without reliable access to hygiene facilities or a safe home, and living in crowded shelters can put people at even higher risk. Help is available.

Call Boston 3-1-1 or Mass 2-1-1 or visit https://mass211.org/ for assistance

For more information about homelessness and COVID-19, visit:

http://mahomeless.org/advocacy/item/coronavirus https://www.empathways.org/covid19resources

CDC interim guidance for responding to COVID-19 among people experiencing homelessness:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/unsheltered-homelessness.html

For more information regarding Housing and Homelessness in Massachusetts and Suffolk County, visit:

https://www.mass.gov/topics/housing-property

https://www.bphc.org/whatwedo/homelessness/homeless-services/Pages/Homeless-Services.aspx

https://www.boston.gov/departments/neighborhood-development/services-homeless

Healthcare

Boston Healthcare for the Homeless and COVID-19

BHCHP provides specialized healthcare for unhouse people in the Greater Boston Area, and is prepared to respond to the COVID-19 Emergency with culturally-responsive and expert specialized care. See page 5 for more information about their services.

https://www.bhchp.org/patients (857) 654-1000 or (857) 654-1600

If think you have COVD-19 and don't have insurance:

Seek medical care if you think you might have COVID-19 regardless of insurance status. COVID-19 testing and treatment for uninsured individuals is covered by Medicaid at no cost to you.

Finding Homeless Shelters and Services

Call Boston 3-1-1 or Mass 2-1-1 for 24/7 assistance and referrals to emergency shelters and services for individuals, youth, and families.

Emergency Assistance Shelters For Families with Children

COVID-19 Guide for Emergency Assistance Shelters:

https://www.mass.gov/doc/dhs-guidance-for-family-shelters/download

Emergency Assistance (EA) is the Massachusetts program providing emergency shelter and re-housing services for homeless families with children, administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). They provide families with emergency shelter and help to find housing.

Who is eligible for EA? EA is available for families with children under the age of 21 and/or pregnant people at any stage of pregnancy who meet financial eligibility (2020 income guidelines: http://mahomeless.org/images/
DHCD Poverty Guidelines-2020.pdf) and eligible reason for homelessness.

How to Apply: Families with children can apply for Emergency Assistance (EA) Shelter by calling the Department of Housing and Community Development at 1(866) 584-0653.

Find more information at: https://www.mass.gov/how-to/find-emergency-family-shelter or (617) 573-1106

Housing and Homelessness Continued

Shelters for Individuals

Boston Rescue Mission

https://www.brm.org/ending-

homelessness (617) 338-9000

Father Bill's Place

https://helpfbms.org/services/shelter/

(617) 770-3314 **Heading Home**

https://www.headinghomeinc.org/howwe-help/housing-programs/individuals/

(617) 864-8140

New England Center and Home for

Veterans

https://www.nechv.org/

(617) 371-1800

Pilgrim Trinitarian Church

http://pilgrimchurch1862.org/ ministrytothehomeless/

pilgrimhomelessshelter.html (617) 282-0456

Pine Street Inn https://www.pinestreetinn.org/

(617) 892-9100 Option 1

Rosie's Place

http://www.rosiesplace.org/

(617) 442-9322

Southampton Street Shelter

https://www.bhchp.org/about/locations/

southampton-street-shelter

(617) 534-6100 **Woods Mullen Shelter**

https://www.bphc.org/whatwedo/ homelessness/homeless-services/Pages/

locations.aspx

(617) 534-2526

Domestic Violence Shelters

Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence

https://www.atask.org/site/our-programs/emergency-shelter.html

(617) 338-2355 Casa Myrna

https://www.casamyrna.org/get-support/residential-programs/

(877) 785-2020 (617) 471-1234

Renewal House

http://www.uuum.org/?page_id=199

(617) 566-6881

RESPOND, Inc.

https://www.respondinc.org/about/programs-services/

(617) 623-5900

Elizabeth Stone House

https://www.elizabethstonehouse.org/housing-services/#

(877) 785-2020 **Transition House**

https://transitionhouse.org/our-programs/housing-programs/

(617) 661-7203

For information about additional shelter options, bed availability, and assistance call Mass 2-1-1 or **Boston 3-1-1**

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

Unaccompanied homeless youth are youth under the age of 21 experiencing homelessness and are not in the custody of their parent or legal guardian. Homeless, at-risk, and runaway youth are especially vulnerable right now. If you are a youth experiencing homelessness, you can get help at Mass 2-1-1 or Boston 3-1-1. Other supports and resources include:

Bridge Over Troubled Waters Boston Area Homeless Youth Survival Guide: https://static1.squarespace.com/ static/568eddf725981d5681acf703/t/56bca19686db43ae1ed1544f/1455202711350/BridgeSurvivalGuide.pdf

Contacting Your School: While closing schools to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is an important step to protect public health, it creates challenges for youth who depend on the supports their school provides. Reach out to your school to get information about food and resources they may be able to provide.

Youth Homeless Shelters and Programs:

Bridge Over Troubled Waters: (617) 423-9575, 47 West Street in Boston, https://www.bridgeotw.org/gethelp

Y2Y Harvard Square: (617) 864-0795, 1 Church St in Cambridge, https://www.y2ynetwork.org/

Be Aware of Possible Exploitation: Homeless youth are especially vulnerable to exploitation. Youth can find information at: https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5c9a6c6a12b2be00012725d9/t/5db880966b1e7419b5e32ef3/1572372635460/Peer -to-Peer.pdf

Mass Housing and Shelter Alliance Resource Guide for Homeless Youth and Young Adults:

https://www.mhsa.net/sites/default/files/2012%20YARG%20Final%20Version.pdf

Housing and Homelessness Continued

Suffolk County Housing Authorities

Boston Housing Authority

(617) 988-4000 and TTY (800) 545-1833 Ext. 420

For up-to-date information:

https://www.bostonhousing.org/en/News/Coronavirus-Covid-19-BHA-Actions-and-Updates.aspx

Chelsea Housing Authority

(617) 884-6552

For up-to-date information: http://www.chelseaha.com/news.aspx

Revere Housing Authority

(781) 284-4394

For up-to-date information: http://www.revereha.com/#news

Winthrop Housing Authority:

(617) 846-7100

For up-to-date information: https://www.town.winthrop.ma.us/housing-authority

Mass Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) issued guidance to public and private housing operators to suspend pending and new non-essential evictions. Pursue assistance if you are facing eviction or are at risk of losing housing during the COVID-19

Emergency.



Housing Stability and Equity

Office of Housing Stability: Works to prevent displacement by promoting housing preservation and stabilization.

https://www.boston.gov/departments/neighborhood-development/office-housing-stability

(617) 635-4200

Tenancy Preservation Program: A homelessness prevention program to help find solutions to disability related issues.

https://www.mass.gov/info-details/tenancy-preservation-program

(617) 788-6500

Department of Fair Housing and Equity: Works to prevent discrimination and ensure fair and equitable housing.

https://www.boston.gov/departments/fair-housing-and-equity

(617) 635-2500

Housing Advocacy and Legal Assistance

Greater Boston Legal Services - Housing Services: Provides pro-bono advocacy and legal services for eligible Boston area residents facing eviction, housing discrimination, and other barriers to safe and stable housing.

https://www.gbls.org/our-work/housing/housing-direct-client-services

Intake Line: (617) 603-1700

Covid-19 Eviction Court Updates: For up-to-date information regarding your housing rights during COVID-19

Emergency and Housing Court updates, visit: https://www.gbls.org/covid-19-information

For more information regarding housing during the COVID-19 Emergency, visit:

https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-dhcd-website

https://www.hud.gov/coronavirus

Rent and Utilities

Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) Program

The RAFT program helps keep residents in stable housing when facing eviction, foreclosure, loss of utilities, and other housing emergencies caused by loss of income, increase in expenses, or both. RAFT can provide up to \$4,000 a year.

The Department of Housing and Community Development has created a RAFT program specifically for households facing housing instability due to loss of wages or increase in expenses (i.e. medical costs) caused by the COVID-19 Emergency.

For more information about the COVID-19 RAFT Program, visit: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-dhcd-website

Who is eligible for the RAFT Program?

- Homeless or at-risk of homelessness
- Household income below 30-50% Area Media Income
- Meet criteria of the RAFT screening assessment regarding triggering event for housing crisis, income, and risk level
- Loss of income or increase of expenses
- Demonstrate that RAFT assistance will stabilize the current housing situation

How can RAFT be accessed?

RAFT funding is distributed by partnered Regional Administering Agencies. Metro Housing Boston is in charge of distribution for Suffolk County. You can complete the first step of their application process here:

https://www.waitlistcheck.com/MA2977-1914

To find other regional agencies,

call 1(800) 224-5124 or visit https://www.masshousinginfo.org/

Rental Relief Assistance Programs

Boston Rental Relief Fund: https://www.boston.gov/departments/neighborhood-development/office-housing-stability/rental-relief-fund

Chelsea Emergency Rental Assistance Program: Apply by May 12th https://www.chelseama.gov/sites/chelseama/files/uploads/coc_emergency_rental_assistance_print_flyer_-bilingual_5.1.20.pdf

Utilities and Assistance

The Department of Public Utilities has ordered that during the COVID-19 State of Emergency, utility companies will not shut off gas, electric, or water service to residents for failure to pay. They also will not send any communications regarding threats to shut off utilities.

You can read the DPU order here: https://www.mass.gov/doc/chairs-1st-set-of-orders-under-c-25-s-4b-re-covid-19/download

Internet and Technology Access: Resources for connecting to the internet and accessing technology resources including special offers from internet providers for low-income residents and updated policies and procedures.

https://www.boston.gov/news/internet-connectivity-and-technology-supports-during-covid-19-response or call (617) 635-4783.

Fuel Assistance: Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) can assist with winter heating bills for residents who qualify for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. New applicants and eligible households in Boston can call (617) 348-6599 to apply for ABCD LIHEAP.

For more information, visit: https://bostonabcd.org/service/fuel-assistance/

For specific instructions for how to apply:

https://bostonabcd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Fuel-Contacts- COVID-19 revised 3 19 20.pdf

Utilities Providers offering Assistance: Some providers are offering assistance, relief, and flexibility.

For information about which companies are offering assistance, visit:

https://www.creditsesame.com/blog/updates/utilities-cell-phone-cable-companies-offering-help/

Finances

Managing Your Finances During the COVID-19 Emergency

- If you cannot pay your bills: Contact your lenders and loan servicers and inquire about ways to manage your financial hardship without negatively impacting your credit. You can also work with a credit counselor to learn more about your options: https://www.consumerfinance.gov/ask-cfpb/what-is-credit-counseling-en-1451/
- Relief Offers from Banks, Lenders, and Credit Card Companies: Many of these services are offering flexible payment during this time. For an up-to-date list of banks and lenders offering relief, visit: https://www.creditsesame.com/blog/updates/credit-card-partners-and-banks-offering-temporary-relief/
- If you cannot pay your mortgage: Work with a housing counselor to discuss your options, many offer services at little to no cost to you. Find a HUD-approved counselor here: https://www.consumerfinance.gov/find-a-housing-counselor/
- Credit Card Decisions: It is important to make smart and educated decisions regarding credit card use. For guidance, visit: https://www.cnbc.com/select/using-credit-cards-during-coronavirus/
- New Low Interest Rates: For more information about how the Federal Reserve cutting interest rates may impact your loans, credit card debt, and more, visit: https://www.creditsesame.com/blog/updates/new-low-interest-rates/

on how to protect
yourself financially
during the COVID-19
Emergency:
www.consumerfinance
.gov/

For more information

United Way Family Fund

United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley has set up a COVID-19 Family Support Fund to assist hourly, low-wage workers cope with losses and manage financial hardship due to the COVID-19 Emergency. They plan to utilize their network of non-profit organizations in order to distribute flexible cash assistance. For up-to-date information on how to apply for assistance or information regarding other local funds, visit:

https://unitedwaymassbay.org/covid-19/covid-19-family-fund/



2020 Taxes

Federal Taxes for Individuals: The U.S. Treasury Department and Internal Review Service have ordered that the filing deadline for tax returns be extended from April 15, 2020 to July 15, 2020. You will not accrue any penalties or interest on unpaid federal tax balances until July 16, 2020. You are encouraged to file as soon as possible if you are owed a tax return. For more information, visit: https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/payment-deadline-extended-to-july-15-2020

State Taxes for Individuals: The Massachusetts Department of Revenue recognizes that individuals may need assistance with various tax, child support, and municipal obligations due to the impact of the coronavirus. They have established support tools and measures for extensions for filing tax returns and waiving penalty fees for late payment when appropriate. For resources and up-to-date information, visit:

https://www.mass.gov/info-details/important-covid-19-coronavirus-response-update-from-dor

Free Tax Assistance: ABCD offers free tax assistance by appointment for eligible residents. Their offices are currently closed, but encourage you to call to make an appointment for assistance at (617) 348-6559. For more information about eligibility and services, visit: https://bostonabcd.org/service/tax-assistance/

Unemployment

For up-to-date information from the Department of Unemployment Assistance regarding Massachusetts unemployment services eligibility, enrollment, and access during the COVID-19 Emergency, please visit:

https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-covid-19-unemployment-information

Applying for Unemployment Benefits

Should I apply for unemployment benefits if my employer has shut down because of COVID-19?

Yes, apply online as soon as possible.

If approved, how much will my weekly benefit be?

You can calculate your estimated benefit amount here:

https://www.mass.gov/info-details/how-your-unemployment-benefits-are-determined

How long can I collect benefits?

You can collect unemployment benefits for up for 26 weeks total within a year.

Will I get benefits for my first week of unemployment?

Yes, if you applied on or after March 10, 2020, you will receive your benefit for the first week.

Should I apply for unemployment benefits if my employer has reduced my hours because of COVID-19?

Yes, if your hours or wages have been reduced, you may be eligible for partial unemployment benefits.

Can I apply for unemployment benefits if I am unable to work due to quarantine?

Yes, you be eligible for unemployment benefits if you are temporarily unemployed due to being quarantined, laid off, furloughed or if your workplace is temporarily shut down.

What if I was already collecting unemployment benefits due to a reason other than COVID-19?

You should continue to do work search online as much as you are able. There are many things that can be done remotely that will count as work search such as monitoring job postings and submitting resumes online.

What if I was late responding to DUA questions or appealing a denial due to COVID-19?

You will be excused, DUA will consider the impact of COVID-19 illness, suspected illness, or quarantine.

What if my workplace is shut down, and I am working from home?

You are not eligible for unemployment if you are working full-time hours. If you are working reduced hours, then you may be eligible for partial benefits.

Can I collect benefits if I was laid off temporarily but offered part-time work?

Yes, but all earnings must be reported to determine the appropriate benefit amount.

Will the 26 week period be extended if I was receiving unemployment benefits before the COVID-19 Emergency?

No. 26 weeks is still the maximum for a one year benefit period.

I'm self-employed, but no longer able to work due to COVID-19, am I eligible?

Currently, self-employed individuals are certain contract employees are not eligible for unemployment benefits.

For up-to-date information and answers to frequently asked questions, visit:

https://www.mass.gov/info-details/employee-unemployment-faq-covid-19

If you would like to receive a call from the DUA for assistance filing, fill out and submit this form:

https://www.mass.gov/forms/covid-19-department-of-unemployment-assistance-contact-request

For detailed instructions regarding how to file a new Massachusetts unemployment claim, visit:

https://www.mass.gov/doc/filing-a-new-unemployment-claim-covid-19/download

To submit an unemployment claim online, fill out and submit:

https://uionline.detma.org/Claimant/Core/Login.ASPX

Unemployment Continued

DTA Benefits

A change in employment, loss of hours, or loss of wages due to COVID-19 may make you eligible for benefits and assistance through the Department of Transitional Assistance.

DTA offices are closed for in-person visits, but you can still call the DTA Assistance Line at (877) 382-2363.

SNAP: SNAP stands for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps. It is a monthly benefit to provide access to nutritious foods for low-income individuals.

- If you lost your job or work hours due to COVID-19, you can apply for SNAP at any time.
- Find out if you eligible here: https://dtaconnect.eohhs.mass.gov/screening and apply here: www.dtaconnect.eohhs.mass.gov/
- DTA requires applicants to provide the "best available proof" for verifications during application for all benefits. DTA
 recognizes that some documents might not be available at this time. A self-declaration letter might be the best available
 document to provide and is acceptable.
- For more information during COVID-19, visit: https://www.masslegalservices.org/COVID-19workersandSNAP
- SNAP recipients who are due to recertify-certify will have their benefits extended for 6 months. No one receiving benefits will lose their benefits during this time.
- New SNAP recipients will receive their EBT card by mail only and it may take 5-10 days to receive your new card. People experiencing homelessness can use a shelter address to receive their card.
- The SNAP work requirement rule for adults without dependents has been suspended.
- Reminder: households can give permission to friends, family, or other trusted people to use their EBT card on their behalf, with no need for formal documentation or written paperwork. This may be helpful for seniors, persons with disabilities, and other populations who are particularly vulnerable and at risk from COVID-19, and who may need to ask others to go shopping on their behalf.

Cash Assistance Benefits (TAFDC/EAEDC): DTA offers two types of cash assistance: Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC) and Emergency Assistance to the Elderly, Disabled, and Children (EAEDC).

- For information regarding TAFDC eligibility and how to apply, visit: https://www.mass.gov/service-details/check-tafdc-eligibility-and-how-to-apply
- For information regarding EAEDC and how to apply, visit: https://www.mass.gov/service-details/check-eaedc-eligibility-and-how-to-apply

DTA is stopping all negative cash assistance case actions (for TAFDC and EAEDC only) during the COVID-19 crisis.

This means that, prospectively, no one should be terminated or reduced for any reason.

For more information regarding DTA benefits and COVID-19, visit:

https://www.mass.gov/info-details/dta-covid-19-resources-and-support

For legal assistance with DTA benefits, you can call the Greater Boston Legal Services Welfare Law Unit: (617) 603-1806

Chelsea, Revere, & Everett CONNECT Hotline

The Neighborhood Developers has introduced the CONNECT Hotline for residents of Chelsea, Revere, and Everett for help in applying for SNAP "Food Stamp" benefits, unemployment insurance and benefits, and access to internet and other tech resources.

The hotline is staffed Monday - Friday 9am-7pm

Call (617) 712-3487 for assistance

Health Insurance

If you lost your health insurance due to unemployment or cannot afford your previous plan due to loss of wages, you can **find** health insurance options through the Massachusetts Health Insurance Marketplace. The Massachusetts Health Connector is able to assist with applying for and obtaining health insurance through MassHealth or private insurance.

Visit https://www.mahealthconnector.org/ or call 1(877) 623-6765

Employment

Know Your Employee Rights

It can be difficult to advocate for yourself and your rights as an employee during unfamiliar circumstances. For more information regarding employee rights and employer obligations during the COVID-19 Emergency, visit:

https://www.mass.gov/service-details/frequently-asked-questions-about-covid-19-employee-rights-and-

employer-obligations

https://www.miracoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/JaW-GBLS-LCR-Workers-KYR-Coronavirus-Mar23-2020.pdf

You can also call the Fair Labor Hotline: (617) 727-3465 and TTY (617) 727-4765

Seeking Work?

Potential Employment Opportunities:

Amazon

In-Store & Online Shoppers, Warehouse Sorters & Operators – Various Boston & Greater Boston Locations https://amazon.force.com/Index?setlang=en_US

Trader Joe's

Crew Members (Temporary) - Boston, MA

https://traderjoes.avature.net/careers/JobDetail/Crew-Temporary/7411?source=Glassdoor

BJ's Wholesale Club

Various Positions at Their Revere, Medford, Quincy, Waltham, and Stoneham Locations

https://careers.bjs.com/

CVS Pharmacy

Various Positions at Various Boston Locations

https://jobs.cvshealth.com/search-results?CloudSearchValue=none&CloudSearchLocation=Boston%2C%20MA%2C%

20USA&CloudSearchRadius=10&radiusUnit=Miles&prefilters=none

Dollar Tree

Various Positions at Various Boston Locations

https://sjobs.brassring.com/TGnewUI/Search/Home/Home?

 $\underline{partnerid=25600\&siteid=5477\#keyWordSearch=\&locationSearch=Boston, Massachusetts, United \%20States}$

Whole Foods

Various Positions at Various Boston & Greater Boston Locations

https://careers.wholefoodsmarket.com/global/en/search-results?keywords

Suffolk County District Attorney's Office

https://www.suffolkdistrictattorney.com/jobs-and-internships/open-positions

City of Boston

https://careercenter-boston.icims.com/jobs/intro?hashed=-435683065

Boston Public Health Commission

https://www.bphc.org/workingwithus/Pages/Working-With-Us.aspx

Online Job Postings:

https://www.monster.com/

https://www.indeed.com/

https://www.jobcase.com/ - You can search for remote jobs with an easy filter option.

Legal Assistance

The Legal Resource Finder is an online tool to help you find contact information for legal aid programs, nonprofits, government agencies, and court programs that may be able to help for free or low cost. It also has legal information and self-help materials.

https://www.masslegalservices.org/findlegalaid

Lawyers for Civil Rights Boston

Lawyers for Civil Rights Boston's COVID-19 guide offers information and guidance on questions you may have regarding your rights and relevant legal information during the COVID-19 emergency.

You can access their guide here: http://lawyersforcivilrights.org/coronavirus/

Greater Boston Legal Services

GBLS provides free legal assistance and representation on civil (noncriminal) matters to hundreds of the needlest residents in the city of Boston and 31 surrounding cities and towns. GBLS helps people regardless of their documentation status in all of their work.

Reach out to the following contacts for legal advice or help, organized by type of assistance needed:

| Child Care | (617) 603-1806 | Housing Law | (617) 603-1803 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Child Health Advocacy | .(617) 603-1804 | Immigration | .(617) 603-1808 |
| Consumer Rights/Debt Collection | (617) 603-1671 | MassHealth/Medicaid/Medicare | (617) 603-1804 |
| CORI Issues | .(617) 603-1797 | Nursing Home Advocacy | (617) 603-1804 |
| Education Advocacy | .(617) 603-1804 | Shelter | .(617) 603-1807 |
| Elders (60+) | (617) 603-1804 | Tax Returns and Fed. COVID Payments | .(617) 603-1510 |
| Eviction | (617) 603-1807 | Unemployment Benefits | (617) 603-1639 |
| Family Law | (617) 603-1803 | | |

For other legal problems, call the Eastern Regional Intake at (617) 603-1700 or visit https://www.gbls.org/coronavirus-information

Children's Law Center of Massachusetts

The Children's Law Center of Massachusetts maintains a helpline through which it provides over-the-phone information, resources, and referrals for callers statewide relating to the rights of children and youth in the following areas: Education, Immigration, Health/Mental Health, System-Involved Youth.

The helpline is currently open Monday-Thursday 9am-5pm and can be reached at (888) 543-5298

For more information: http://www.clcm.org/helpline.html

Immigration

IMPORTANT

The Massachusetts Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Coalition advises: "If you or a loved one are sick or know you've been exposed to the coronavirus, don't hesitate to get tested and treated, regardless of your immigration status or insurance coverage. COVID-19 testing and treatment for uninsured individuals is covered by Medicaid at no cost to you. Getting tested or treated for COVID-19 will NOT count as public charge for immigrants, and it will not have any negative affect on your ability to obtain a green card or change of immigration status under the public charge rule."

https://www.uscis.gov/greencard/public-charge



For multi-lingual resources and coronavirus-specific immigration updates, visit:

https://www.miracoalition.org/resources/covid19/

You can also call Mass 2-1-1 or Boston 3-1-1, both services are equipped to assist in multiple languages

Immigration Continued

Boston's COVID-19 Updates are available in multiple languages, each with up-to-date information and multilingual print materials:

English: boston.gov/covid-19

Español | Spanish: boston.gov/covid-19-es

中文 | Chinese: <u>boston.gov/covid-19-zh</u>

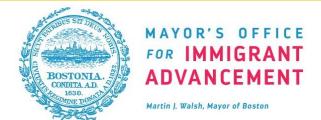
Kreyòl ayisyen | Haitian Creole: boston.gov/covid-19-hc

Tiếng Việt | Vietnamese: <u>boston.gov/covid-19-vi</u> kriolu | Cape Verdean: <u>boston.gov/covid-19-cv</u> Русский | Russian: <u>boston.gov/covid-19-ru</u> | العربية | Arabic: boston.gov/covid-19-ar

Português | Portuguese: boston.gov/covid-19-pt

Français | French: <u>boston.gov/covid-19-fr</u> Af-Soomali | Somali: <u>boston.gov/covid-19-so</u> Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement-Immigration and Covid-19 Resource Guides

https://drive.google.com/file/ d/1GeRSIIFN2TIVcP1U8cDYRXey6posAIYY/view



Massachusetts Undocumented Fund

A relief and assistance fund for undocumented individuals impacted by COVID-19 https://www.massundocufund.org/

Medically Vulnerable Populations

Who is at Higher Risk?

Older adults and people of any age with serious underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk for more serious illness and complications from COVID-19. Based on this information, high risk individuals include: People aged 65+, people who live in a nursing home or facility, people with chronic lung disease of asthma, people with serious heart conditions, people who are immunocompromised, and people with other serious medical conditions that are not well managed.

What do Higher Risk People Need to Know?

- Reducing exposure is especially important for people at higher risk of complications. The CDC advises to stay at home as much as possible if COVID-19 is spreading in your community.
- Planning is key: Develop a care plan with others who can support you with errands, out of the home needs, and medical support. Have access to several weeks of medication and medical supplies available in case you need to stay home for a prolonged period of time.
- Create an emergency contacts list.
- Practice good hygiene for yourself and your home, plan for assistance with these tasks if needed.
- Watch for symptoms and emergency warning signs.
- Follow your state's guidance for community measures.

For additional guidance, visit: https://acl.gov/COVID-19

Accessible Information about COVID-19

COVID-19 can be difficult to understand, so this plain-language guide may be helpful for individuals with cognitive challenges: https://selfadvocacyinfo.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Plain-Language-Information-on-Coronavirus.pdf

Services for Senior Citizens

CDC Information of Senior Citizens

For specific information regarding prevention, protection, and managing the COVID-19 Emergency for older adults at higher risk, visit: https://www.cdc.gov/aging/covid19-guidance.html

Nursing Home Family Resource Line

A dedicated phone line that will connect family members of nursing home and rest home residents with the information and resources they need.

Nursing Home Family Resource Line: (617) 660-5399

Boston Age Strong Commission

The Age Strong Commission acts as a commission on aging, an area agency, and a resource hub for residents 55 and older. They offer:

Information and Referrals: Advocates assist older Bostonians to access the information, programs, and services they need. Advocates can offer direct care in health insurance counseling, assistance for accessing government benefits, and assessments and home visits when it is safe and appropriate to do so. They can also provide referrals and connections to aging information, specialized programs and services, city programs and services, legal service providers, and protective services if necessary. (617) 635-4366

https://www.boston.gov/departments/age-strong-commission/information-and-referrals-older-people

Transportation: Provides access to appropriate and specialized transportation when it is safe and appropriate to do so. https://www.boston.gov/departments/age-strong-commission/transportation-options-older-people

Food Resources: Helps older people to access quality, nutritious food and healthy nutrition education. They have dining sites at more than 40 locations across the city and can deliver meals to eligible people who are unable to leave the home or prepare their own meals.

(617) 635-4366 for a list of meal sites or (617) 292-6211 to find out if you are eligible for meal delivery

https://www.boston.gov/departments/age-strong-commission/food-resources-older-people

Financial Guidance: Information about ways to save money as an older adult and eligibility information for tax relief and other cost-saving benefits.

https://www.boston.gov/departments/age-strong-commission/ways-save-older-adult

Housing Support: Advocates can help to find and access safe and appropriate housing, advocate around housing stability issues and in housing court, referrals to housing legal service providers, assistance accessing utilities relief and assistance, advice on how to maintain a healthy and safe home, and more.

(617) 645-4366 https://www.boston.gov/departments/age-strong-commission/housing-support-older-people

For additional services, visit their website at: https://www.boston.gov/departments/age-strong-commission

Additional Services for Senior Citizens

Ethos: Home Care, Personal Care, Nutrition

(617) 522-6700

https://www.ethocare.org/

For streaming presentations about COVID-19 and health: https://www.ethocare.org/ethos-youtube-live-stream-channel/

Grocery Store Senior Hours

Some grocery stores are offering specialized hours for elders to shop without large crowds in order to reduce the risk of exposure. For more information, see this article: https://www.bostonherald.com/2020/03/19/grocery-shopping-during-coronavirus-stores-closing-early-offering-senior-hours/

MBTA: The Ride

For Scheduling Trips: (844) 427-7433

For up-to-date information regarding MBTA transportation,

visit:

https://www.mbta.com/accessibility/the-ride

Meals on Wheels (617) 477-6606

For updates on how services are being delivered in response

to COVID-19, visit:

https://www.ethocare.org/coronavirus-covid-19-update-

meals-for-older-adults/

Activities at Home

Quarantine and social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19 has significantly disrupted day-to-day activities and routines for many people. Coping with this change and adjusting can be difficult, so review these activities for some options to take care of mind and body:

Educational Activities

Amazing Educational Resources

http://www.amazingeducationalresources.com/

Brain Pop: Temporary free access to education services

https://go.brainpop.com/COVID19?utm_source=bp-

com&utm_medium=banner&utm_campaign=coronavirus&utm_

content=free-access

Children's Advocacy Center At Home Activities & Learning:

https://www.suffolkcac.org/support-resources/covid-19-

support/at-home-activities-learning

Go Noodle: Physical activities and videos for children

https://www.gonoodle.com/

Khan Academy: Free education services for ages 4-18. Including

schedules, videos, and assignments. https://www.khanacademy.org/

WGBH: Distance Learner:

https://www.wgbh.org/distance-learning-center

Mothers For Justice and Equality: Virtual Seminars for adults

and children (English and Spanish)
For Adults Contact Vanessa Cordero

Vcordero@mothersforjusticeandequality.org

For Youth Christina Paris

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Cparis@mothersforjusticeandequality.org

Read Works: Reading comprehension and parent home

teaching resources https://www.readworks.org/

Boston Public Library eCards

https://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/4197886/eCard-Registration

Libby: Free ebooks and audiobooks with a Boston Public Library

card https://www.overdrive.com/apps/libby/

Audible: Free audiobooks for kids during quarantine

https://stories.audible.com/start-listen

Entertainment

Zoom/Skype: Video Calls

https://zoom.us/

https://www.skype.com/en/

Fast Company: Free Drawing Classes from Famous Illustrators

https://www.fastcompany.com/90478307/stuck-at-home-take-free-drawing-classes-from-famous-illustrators

STEEZY: Series of Free Dance Classes https://app.steezy.co/free-classes

Transformative Culture Project: Free Online Creative Classrooms (Art, Dance, DJing, Poetry, Music Production)

https://www.tcproject.org/

Health & Fitness

Calm: website and app free calming music, meditations, and

wellness resources

https://www.calm.com/

Down Dog Yoga: Free workouts until April 1st and July 1st for all

students and teachers

https://www.downdogapp.com/

JP Centre Yoga: Daily free yoga livestream via Zoom.

https://myemail.constantcontact.com/JPCY-is-now-online-with-

donation-based-classes.html?

aid=lGzo7qbzdTM&soid=1110193228356

Nike Run Club: Free app https://www.nike.com/nrc-app Planet Fitness: Free workouts

https://www.facebook.com/planetfitness/

videos/1058274961238168/?

utm source=ExactTarget&utm medium=email&utm campaign

=HLTH%202020%20Update&utm content=Stream%20Free%

2C%20Daily%2C%2020-Minute%20Planet%20Fitness%

20Workouts

YMCA: Home fitness videos https://ymca360.org/

Fitness Blender: Kids Workouts

https://www.fitnessblender.com/videos/fitness-blender-kids-

workout-25-minute-fun-workout-for-kids-at-home

For more information regarding internet safety, visit the SCDAO Stop, Block and Talk at:

https://www.suffolkdistrictattorney.com/in-the-community/internet-safety

Mutual Aid and Community Service

Mutual aid is voluntary assistance and exchanges among community members in order to benefit individuals in need and the community at large. These are community organized efforts and supports, some are connected with larger organizations and some are developed by engaged citizens and are not affiliated with established programs.

ABCD Neighborhood Service Centers

Six ABCD neighborhood centers will take phone calls from clients in need of emergency assistance. Phone numbers for each location:

- Allston/Brighton: (617) 903-3640
- East Boston: (617) 567-8857
- Mattapan: (617) 298-2045
- Mystic Valley (Malden, Medford, Everett): (781) 321-2501
- Parker Hill/Fenway: (617) 445-6000
- Roxbury/North Dorchester: (617) 442-5900

American Asian Resource Workshop (AARW)'s Boston & MA Resource List

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-x6vOZKVsla5H363mtdgcyivvLmcx7-f2s6l-O_ba8A/edit?ts=5e697f9c

Brookline Mutual Aid

https://docs.google.com/document/d/18wyL-f2x2j-tFMCsbaxWW98PjY5bVUKfPluFibmX9u8/edit?usp=sharing

Charlestown Coalition

http://charlestowncoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Copy-of-COVID-19-RESOURCE.pdf

Chelsea Collaborative

https://www.chelseacollab.org/

COVID CONNECT – Connecting vulnerable people and healthy volunteers to various humanitarian organizations responding to the COVID-19 pandemic

https://www.covidconnect.org/

Dorchester Community Care

English: http://bit.ly/DotCommunityCare

Español: http://bit.ly/CuidadoDeComunidadMutuo

Tiếng Việt: http://bit.ly/DichVuQuanTâmCôngDôngDorchester

East Boston Mutual Aid

https://whatsupeastie.com/coronavirusresponse/mutualaideastie/?

fbclid=IwAR0DEnr00afdi4ksB NJmK1OisMq2hj PFS5BIbtvlzCmYzHkkMUF8QoZDk

Jamaica Plain & Roxbury Mutual Aid

https://bit.ly/jpmutualaid

Roslindale Cares

https://www.roslindalecares.com/

South Boston Mutual Aid

bit.ly/2xQwIUG

Hotline Phone Number (617) 221-7594

Volunteer— American Red Cross

https://www.redcross.org/local/massachusetts/volunteer.html

Volunteer— Boston

https://www.bostoncares.org/

Volunteer — Chelsea

https://www.chelseama.gov/home/pages/call-volunteers-llamado-voluntarios

Volunteer — Revere

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe1BH8rg36Jts-cRnhWmKwts4w5yuMDhMBmdAphXcRnah8dPg/viewform

Additional Resource & Guides for Our Community

Asian American Resource Workshop:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-x6vOZKVsla5H363mtdgcyivvLmcx7-f2s6l-O ba8A/edit

Boston Community Resources:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/14JYALTcbGrwXwL2OipH0BSCYcT4TzkryMd06RSiHaRs/edit#

Boston COVID-19 Community Care:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/15GYuPYEzBk9KIyH3C3419aYxIMVAsa7BL7nBl9434Mg/htmlview#

Boston Helps: https://www.boston.com/boston-helps

Boston Private Industry Council: https://www.bostonpic.org/news/2020/covid-19-resources

Boston Public Library: https://www.bpl.org/blogs/post/covid-19-resources/

Boston University Center for Autism Research Excellence: http://www.bu.edu/autism/2020/03/23/covid-19-resources/

Charlestown Coalition: http://charlestowncoalition.org/covid-resources/

Chelsea Beth Israel Hospital:

https://www.bidmc.org/-/media/files/beth-israel-org/locations/bilh-chelsea-covid-19-resources-en-04-14-20.pdf

Chelsea Chamber of Commerce: http://www.chelseachamber.org/COVID-19-Resources

Chelsea Collaborative: https://www.chelseacollab.org/covid19

Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County: https://www.suffolkcac.org/support-resources/covid-19-support

Downtown Boston: https://www.downtownboston.org/covidresources

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston: https://www.bostonfed.org/in-the-region/covid-19-resources.aspx

Funds for Boston Immigrants: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1wg2Kp1Gi2B1I7-

9TkZlYj6hpmMWX9qhA9Y94mleCMBw/edit#slide=id.g7258125d5a 0 11

GLAD: https://www.glad.org/covid-resources/

Immigrant Accompaniment Network:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qntCUGNsuQ zjQidmv6kN4mFEz7M-fEy1L3RxWAh2g/edit

Informed Immigrant: https://www.informedimmigrant.com/guides/coronavirus/#

Jewish Family & Children's Services: https://www.jfcsboston.org/COVID-19/COVID-19-Resources

Jobs with Justice: https://www.massjwj.net/news/2020/3/17/cover-19-mutual-aid-networks?

fbclid=IwAR3sJ UTOaq1E1rtGi0-MrwVQgUbH9uh9ueoZ-ozgQFEoCT9wSVGH5zmLq4

Lawyers for Civil Rights Boston: http://lawyersforcivilrights.org/coronavirus/

Localized Resource Database: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1HEdNpLB5p-sieHVK-

CtS8_N7SIUhlMpY6q1e8Je0ToY/htmlview?usp=gmail_thread#

Madison Park Development Corporation:

http://www.madison-park.org/news/mpdc-suspending-programming-closing-offices-3-17-3-27-2020/

Massachusetts Community Resource Directory: https://massthrive.org/

Mass General Hospital Mental Health Guide: https://www.massgeneral.org/psychiatry/guide-to-mental-health-resources/

Mass Cultural Council: https://massculturalcouncil.org/covid-19-resources/

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency:

https://memamaps.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=5867d881a9324121839605c56a3d7cc9

Mass Mutual Aid: http://tinyurl.com/mamutualaid

Multi-Lingual COVID-19 Information Drive: https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1KmaFpW-

NFoKy8 D0JrNKpUsNb15MFkSk?fbclid=IwAR055e1af9D94x3biBVrffCHWBNSkchCHibUklDOlx1WFDF0pK n6STpEEk

NAMI Massachusetts: https://namimass.org/online-and-phone-support-options/

The Boston Foundation: https://www.tbf.org/what-we-do/special-funds/covid-19-response-fund

William James College: https://www.williamjames.edu/community/resource-hub/index.cfm