

# Community Resources

from *Assemblymember*  
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## Benefits

### 211 WNY

Call 211 for assistance 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This number connects people to essential services, including food assistance, housing, job training, legal counseling, mental health and substance abuse services and more.

### SNAP

Visit [mybenefits.ny.gov](http://mybenefits.ny.gov) to apply. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program provides food assistance for individuals on fixed income. Contact the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance at [otda.ny.gov](http://otda.ny.gov) or call the toll-free OTDA Hotline at **1-800-342-3009**.

### HEAP

Visit [mybenefits.ny.gov](http://mybenefits.ny.gov) to apply. The Home Energy Assistance Program provides financial assistance for home heating for individuals whose income meets eligibility requirements. For more information or assistance, visit the Erie County Department of Social Services or call **716-858-7644**.

## Senior and Local Resources

### Erie County Department of Social Services

Call **716-858-8526** during business hours, or visit [www2.erie.gov/seniorservices](http://www2.erie.gov/seniorservices). Services include transportation services, meal delivery, grocery delivery, food pantries, caregiving and support resources, wellness programs, housing and more. For emergency transportation, call **716-858-7433** from 8:30 a.m. - 4:20 p.m. M-F.

### Town of Cheektowaga Senior Services

Call **716-686-3930** or visit [tocny.org/departments/seniors](http://tocny.org/departments/seniors). Assistance with filing for Medicare/Medicaid, SNAP, HEAP, income tax preparation, housing, nursing home placement and aid in setting up homemaker services.

### Town of Lancaster Senior Center

Call the senior center at **716-685-3498** or visit [www.lancasterny.gov/departments/senior-center](http://www.lancasterny.gov/departments/senior-center). The center offers meal delivery services and transportation to medically necessary appointments. Van is available to Lancaster residents, aged 60-plus, from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. M-F. Suggested donation of \$3 for one-way trip, \$8 for wheelchair van. Reservations are required.

### FeedMore WNY

Visit [feedmorewny.org](http://feedmorewny.org) for assistance. This organization operates the Food Bank of WNY and Meals on Wheels, which provides home food delivery for homebound seniors and disabled individuals. For Meals on Wheels information, call **716-822-2002** or visit [mealsonwheelswny.org](http://mealsonwheelswny.org).

## NY Connects

Call **1-800-342-9871** or visit [www.nyconnects.gov](http://www.nyconnects.gov). Free information and assistance on long-term services, including home care, transportation and meals.

## Cheektowaga Van Services

Call **716-858-7422** from 8:30 a.m. - 4:20 p.m. to make a reservation. Van service is available to transport seniors to essential needs, such as medical appointments or food shopping. Van operates from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., six days a week. Suggested donation of \$3 per one-way trip, and \$8 for use of the wheelchair van. Visit [tocny.org/departments/seniors/van-services](http://tocny.org/departments/seniors/van-services) for more information.

## Health Resources

### Erie County Department of Health

Visit [erie.gov/health](http://erie.gov/health) or call the ECDOH information line at **716-858-2929**. Information on potential COVID-19 exposure, general information and answers to frequently asked questions, latest figures on confirmed cases and various community resources.

### New York State Office of Mental Health

Visit [omh.ny.gov](http://omh.ny.gov), or call the free, confidential OMH Emotional Support Line at **1-844-863-9314**. Support for coping with the anxiety, stress, fear and the feeling of helplessness that people often experience during an emergency.

### Erie County Department of Social Services

Call **716-858-8000** or visit [erie.gov/socialservices](http://erie.gov/socialservices). Assistance with HEAP, SNAP, emergency care, foster care/home finding, and more.

## Legal Help

### Center for Elder Law & Justice

Call **716-853-3087** or visit [elderjusticenyny.org](http://elderjusticenyny.org). Free legal services to seniors, people with disabilities and low-income individuals in WNY. Services include elder abuse prevention, health care advocacy, housing, consumer protection and the Homeowner Protection Program for those who are in danger of losing their home due to mortgage foreclosure. Call **1-844-481-0973** to reach the Free Senior Legal Advice Helpline.

### New York State Bar Association

The NYSBA is offering free legal advice to those who have filed an unemployment claim, had their claim denied and wish to appeal the denial. NYSBA also provides information and resources on filing an unemployment claim. For more information, or to match with an attorney, visit [nysba.org/legalhelp](http://nysba.org/legalhelp).

### Western New York Law Center

The WNYLC provides free legal advice and represents low-income individuals in civil matters, including debt defense, defense against a mortgage foreclosure and restoration of utilities such as water service. For more information, call **716-855-0203** or visit [wnylc.com](http://wnylc.com).